

The Hongkong Telegraph.

N°. 2802.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL £9,296,677.07
RESERVE FUND £805,166.31
RESERVE, LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS £9,356,677.07

COURT OF DIRECTORS.—
CHAIRMAN—J. S. MOSIS, Esq.
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq. Hon. J. J. KESWICK
T. E. DAVIES, Esq. A. MCCONACHIE, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq. L. POESNECKER, Esq.
C. J. HOLLIDAY, Esq. D. R. SASSOON, Esq.
H. HOPPIUS, Esq.

ACTING CHIEF MANAGER,
HONGKONG—F. DE BOVIS, Esq.
MANAGER,
SHANGHAI—JOHN WALTER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND
COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT at
the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the
daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 4 per cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 5 per cent. per Annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities,
and every description of BANKING and
EXCHANGE business transacted.

DRAFFTS granted on London, and the chief
commercial places in Europe, India, Australia,
America, China and Japan.

F. DE BOVIS,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 28th February, 1891. [18]

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—THE BUSINESS of the above BANK
will be conducted by the HONGKONG
AND SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION, on their premises in
Hongkong, Business Hours on WEEK-
DAYS, 10 to 1; SATURDAYS, 10 to 1.
2.—SUMS LESS THAN £1, OR MORE THAN
£250 at one time will not be received. No
Depositor may deposit more than £4,500
in one year.

3.—DEPOSITORS in the SAVINGS BANK,
having £100, or more, at their credit may at
their option transfer the same to the HONG-
KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION on fixed deposit for 12
months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—INTEREST at the rate of 3½ per
annum will be allowed to Depositors on
their daily balances.

5.—EACH DEPOSITOR will be supplied gratis
with a PASS-BOOK, which must be presented
with each payment or withdrawal.
Depositors must not make any entries them-
selves in their PASS-BOOKS, but should send
them to be written up at least twice a year,
about the beginning of January and
beginning of July.

6.—CORRESPONDENCE as to the Business
of the Bank, if marked ON HONGKONG
SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS, will be
forwarded free by the various British Post
Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—WITHDRAWALS may be made on demand,
but the personal attendance of the
Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and
the production of his PASS-BOOK, are
necessary.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

F. DE BOVIS,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1891. [19]

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK
CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL £580,000.

LONDON: Head Office, 40, Threadneedle Street;
West End Office, 25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN
AND THE COLOMIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT,
Bills and Bills of EXCHANGE,
ISSUES LETTERS OF CREDIT, forwards Bills for
COLLECTION, and Transacts Banking and
Agency Business generally, on terms to be had
on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS:
Fixed for 12 months, 5 per cent. per Annum.
" 6 " 4 "
" 3 " 3 "
ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS
a per cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager. [18]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £1,000,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL 2,500,000.
RESERVE FUND £120,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK,
Chairman, Managing Director.

Hon. C. P. CHATER,
Vice-Chairman.

S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.

J. S. MOSIS, Esq.

G. E. NOBLE, Esq.

POON PONG, Esq.

D. R. SASSOON, Esq.

BANKERS.
THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

MONEY advanced on Mortgage, on Land,
Properties purchased and sold.
Estates Managed and all kinds of Agency and
Commission business relating to Land, etc.,
conducted.

Full particulars can be obtained at the Com-
pany's Office, No. 5, Queen's Road Central.

A. SHELTON HOPPER,
Secretary.

Victoria Building,
Hongkong, 1st May, 1890. [16]

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

CHIMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.

THE
HONGKONG
DISPENSARY.

(Established A.D. 1841).

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
ANALYTICAL,
FAMILY, DISPENSING, and GENERAL
CHEMISTS.

PERFUMERS.

PATENT MEDICINE PROPRIETORS.

SEEDSMEN.

WINE and SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
CIGAR IMPORTERS, &c., &c.

Manufacturers of
AERATED WATERS

By Steam Machinery.

This being THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY of
our Firm, and THE JUBILEE YEAR of the Colony,
"THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY" having been
Established A.D. 1841, we take the opportunity
of thanking our friends for their support during
the last 50 years, and tender them the assurance of
our best services in the future as in the past.

We shall continue to import DRUGS, CHEM-
ICALS, and GOODS of every kind of the BEST
QUALITY ONLY AS HERETOFOR, at prices that will
be found to compare favourably with local rates,
and in many instances with those ruling at
home.

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

THE SHANGHAI PHARMACY, SHANGHAI,
24, Napkin Road.

BOTICA INGLESA, MANILA,
Escolta, 14.

THE CANTON DISPENSARY, CANTON,
Canal Road.

THE DISPENSARY, FOOCHOW.

THE DISPENSARY, HANKOW.

THE DISPENSARY, TIENTSIN.

LONDON OFFICE,
106, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
21st January, 1891. [18]

F. DE BOVIS,
Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1891. [19]

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A. SHELTON HOPPER,
Secretary.

Victoria Building,
Hongkong, 1st May, 1890. [16]

Intimations.

CRUICKSHANK & CO., LTD.,
FAMILY AND DISPENSING CHEMISTS,

AND
Commission Agents.

ALWAYS in stock our usual well-known Brand's of WINES and SPIRITS, &c.
SPECIAL BLENDED LIQUEUR WHISKY.

In a Gelatinous form, is not dangerous and is explosive, dissolves quite bright, without any sediment, in Ether, and Alcohol, and gives a much more uniform result than ordinary Gun Cotton.

Our remaining stock of CHRISTMAS SWEETS, CHOCOLATES, SHORT BREAD, &c.

we are selling off at reduced prices.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1890. [17]

W. BREWER
HAS JUST RECEIVED

A GREAT variety of excellent Tennis Shoes
Solid Soles with ordinary Canvas tops
also Buckskin and Russian Leather.

Also Gen'l's Russian Leather Shoes and Boots in
all the newest styles.

A large quantity of Art Studies for framing.
"Ideal Heads," Panel Pictures, Land-
scapes, &c.

Handsome Birthday Cards in boxes,
Water Colour Boxes fitted, in great variety.

New stock of Oil Colours.

W. BREWER,
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL. [18]

Lancaster's Photo Cameras &, and full plate.

NEW BOOKS.

A Plea for Liberty, by Herbert Spencer.

Building and Machine Draughtsmen,
Prospector's Handbook.

Hints to Travellers, by Geographical Socy.

Austen's Metallurgy.

Colc's Practical Geology.

Cloë's History of Creation.

Pilman's Shorthand Books.

HONGKONG, 18th March, 1891. [19]

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UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL. [18]

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Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,
L I M I T E D,
DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.

PURE WINES.

WE beg to invite careful attention to the following selection from our Wine List, for we have succeeded in combining purity and excellence of quality with moderate prices.

SHERRY.

per case, per bottle.

Vino Generoso—a generous round wine, green seal..... \$6.00 \$6.60

Vino Depasto—a medium dry wine with delicate flavour, red seal..... \$1.00 \$1.10

Amonitallone—a high class natural wine for connoisseurs of Sherry, yellow seal..... \$1.00 \$1.10

Delicoso—the very finest sherry procurable, 6 years in bottle..... \$1.25 \$1.25

PORT.

Superior quality..... \$1.00 \$1.00

Invalid Port, gold seal..... \$1.20 \$1.20

Old Tawny, soft and mature, black seal..... \$1.40 \$1.25

Specially selected old vintage \$2.00 \$1.75

BURGUNDY.

Beaune—a full-bodied Red Burgundy with strengthening properties..... \$1.25 \$1.25

Chablis—a mellow White Burgundy, fine flavour and bouquet..... \$1.25 \$1.25

CHAMPAGNE.

Avisc—a well matured, specially selected dry wine..... \$1.75 \$1.75

Lemono—Vin-brut—Cuvee Royale. As Supplied regularly to the Prince of Wales, House of Commons, and the chief clubs in London, &c. \$1.00 \$1.00

Per case of 24 bottles..... \$23.00 \$1.00

We are sole Agents in China for the Sale of this splendid Wine.

(Telephone No. 60.)

No. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong, 9th March, 1891. [37]

BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.)
HONGKONG.

WE invite attention to the following old lauded Brands, all of which are of excellent quality and good value for the money.

The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best growths at moderate prices.

It is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

Per dozen. Per Case. Per Bot.

A Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule..... \$1.00 \$1.00
B Vintage, Superior quality, Red Capsule..... \$1.10 \$1.10
C Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule..... \$1.25 \$1.25
D Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled)..... \$1.50 \$1.50

SHERRIES.

A Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule..... 6 \$0.60
B Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule..... 7.50 \$0.75
C Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule..... 10 \$1.00
CC Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule..... 10 \$1.00
D Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule..... 10 \$1.00
E Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled)..... 14 \$1.50

CLARETS.

A Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule..... \$4 \$4.50
B St. Estephe, Red Capsule..... 4.50 7.50
C St. Julien..... 7 \$7.50
D La Rose..... 11 \$12.00
E Pe. de. Case. Per Bot.

BRANDY.

A Hennedy's Old Pale, Red Capsule..... \$1.10 \$1.10
B Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule..... 14 \$1.25
C Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule..... 15 \$1.50
D Hennedy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1872 vintage, Red Capsule..... 24 \$2.00

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A Thome's Blend, White Capsule..... 8 \$0.75
B Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule with Name and Trade Mark..... 8 \$0.75
C Watson's Abelson-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark..... 8 \$0.75
D Watson's H K D Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule..... 10 \$1.00
E Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule..... 12 \$1.10

RISH WHISKY.

A John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule..... 8 \$0.75
B John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule..... 10 \$1.00
C John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule..... 12 \$1.10
GENUINE BOURBON WHISKY, fine old, Red Capsule, with Name..... 10 \$1.00

GIN.

A Fine Old Tom, White Capsule..... 40 \$0.40
B Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule..... 40 \$0.40
C Fine A. V. H. Geneva..... 50 \$0.50

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule..... 12 \$1.00
Good Leward Island..... \$1.50 per Gallon.

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine Maraschino

Curaçao Herring's Cherry Cordial

Chartreuse Dr. Sieger's Angostura Bitter, &c.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1891.

TELEGRAMS.

THE BOAT RACE.

LONDON, March 23rd.

Oxford won by a quarter of a length.

DISTRESSING SCENE AT THE WRECK OF THE "UTOPIA."

A very distressing scene occurred at Gibraltar on the recovery and identification of hundreds of bodies from the wreck of the *Utopia*.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH ARBITRATION.

March 14th.

The Anglo-French agreement to arbitrate on the Newfoundland difficulty has been signed.

March 16th.

The Arbitrators on the Newfoundland difficulty will be Russian, Norwegian, and Swiss Jurists, with two Delegates from France and Great Britain.

Newfoundland, however, protests against the arbitration.

THE NEW ORLEANS MURDER.

The jury having acquitted the nineteen Italians charged with the murder of the New Orleans chief of police, the mob, which included some of the leading citizens, broke into the prison and lynched seven of the men. The Italian Government have protested against this outrage to the United States Government at Washington.

The American Press generally declared the lynching of some of the accused concerned in the murder of the chief of police, declaring that the jury were suborned to acquit the prisoners. The Italian Press is furious on this subject.

THE CHILI REVOLT.

The Government troops have been defeated near Iquique, losing seven hundred men during the engagement.

SEIZURE OF A BRITISH STEAMER BY THE PORTUGUESE.

March 17th.

The Portuguese have seized the British steamer *Cousteau of Carnarvon* in the Limpopo river laden with arms for the South African Company. The *Times* says the seizure is an outrage for which Portugal must account. The Marquis of Salisbury and Sir James Ferguson have replied calmly to the questions relating to this matter.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

March 18th.

There will be a game of polo at Causeway Bay to-morrow, commencing at 4.30 p.m.

THE Portuguese steamer *Diu*, Commander A. Gomes, arrived at Macao yesterday from Lisbon.

A REMARKABLE performance was recently achieved at Auckland, N.Z., when Macpherson, the amateur champion, ran 250 yards in 24.10th sec.

Mr. C. P. Chater sailed for Europe in the *Natal*, at noon, to-day. We hope that the sun will still continue to rise in the East, and that the little world of Hongkong will wag on as usual.

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LADIES defend the wearing of corsets on economic grounds—there is less waist. Yahi.

INSTANTANEOUS death was the result of a fall sustained by a coolie yesterday who overbalanced himself whilst walking down a plank with a log of wood with which he, with others, was loading a junk. The unfortunate man fell head foremost a depth of fully 11 feet fracturing his skull and breaking his right arm and left leg. The cause of death being known, it is hardly likely that there will be any magisterial inquiry into the circumstances.

It is reported that the M. M. steamer *Caledonian*, which left here, homeward bound, on the 11th inst. met with a slight mishap while entering the Saigon River. It appears that she ran foul of the U. S. ship *Africa* which was lying at anchor in the river off Cape St. James at the time, but no great amount of damage was done. Some of the yards were brought down on deck, one or two boats were smashed, and a portion of the rigging carried away, otherwise the vessel was unharmed.

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THE CHILI REVOLT.

The Government

of merchandise from China to the United States.—Section 6.—That on and after the first day of March, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, all articles of foreign manufacture, such as are usually or ordinarily marked, stamped, branded or labelled, and all packages containing such or other imported articles, shall, respectively, be plainly marked, stamped, branded, or labelled in legible English words, so as to indicate the country of their origin; and unless so marked, stamped, branded, or labelled, they shall not be admitted to entry.

Section 7.—That on and after March first, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, no article of imported merchandise which shall copy or simulate the name or trade-mark of any domestic manufacturer or manufacturer, shall be admitted to entry at any custom-house in the United States. And in order to aid the officers of the customs in enforcing this prohibition, any domestic manufacturer who has adopted trade-marks may require his name and residence and a description of his trademarks to be recorded in books which shall be kept for that purpose in the Department of the Treasury under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, and may furnish to the Department facsimiles of trade-marks; and thereupon the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause one or more copies of the same to be transmitted to each collector or other proper officer of the customs.

Under Section 6 it will be necessary that all cases or packages containing manufactured articles, before being admitted to entry, bear stencils or be otherwise branded with the name of the country in which such manufactured were made. Failing strict compliance with the Act it is possible detentions, confiscations, or return of the goods may be necessary.

NEWS OF THE WORLD.

LONDON, February 16th. Communications have been received from Australia announcing that the Australian unionists have agreed to block all federation ships arriving in Australian ports that have been loaded or manned by non-union men. Railway men, car-men and others connected with dock labor are arranging to refuse to accept or deliver goods to boycotted vessels after Monday, when the war will become general. To-day unionist workers refused to tranship cargoes in the Victoria docks from federated vessels. The outlook for the dockers' strike here and in Cardiff is most serious. New Zealand union has advanced one penny per pound and there is a prospect of a further advance.

While a clerk from the Bank of Scotland was standing at the counter of the National Provincial Bank in the act of making a deposit he was addressed by a stylishly dressed stranger, and, while the conversation, which only lasted a moment or so, was going on, a man, evidently an accomplice of the stranger, snatched from the clerk a wallet containing bonds and checks representing many thousand pounds, and escaped. He has not been captured. The amount obtained by the thief was nearly £12,000.

Berlin and Vienna newspapers consider Di Rudin's exposition of the Italian Government's policy appropriate in view of the difficulty of his position.

The McCarthyites, members of Parliament to-day resolved to requisition in the proportion to devote the remainder of the league fund, £50,000, to the benefit of evicted tenants, provided the money is distributed by the Tenant Defence Association. They also decided to endeavor to secure by legal means control of the United Ireland.

Terrible storms are reported on the coast of Greece. Several shipping disasters are heard of with the loss of twenty or more lives.

Lord Salisbury's reply to Blaine's dispatch on the Bosphorus Sea question has been forwarded to Washington.

PARIS, February 16th. The sales of the defaulting banker, Mace, were fixed to contain \$72,000.

The French press welcome the Marquis di Rudin's statement in the Italian Chamber of Deputies yesterday as a promising move toward amicable relations between Italy and France.

BERLIN, February 16th.

Count Kleist, who has been in prison for some time past for an attempt at manslaughter on Herr Albert, proprietor of a hotel in this city, is again in trouble. On Friday last, on the plea of sickness, the Count was liberated from prison. On Saturday he was seized with a fit of maniacal rage and made a savage attack on his valet, who was in bed at the time. The Count beat the man so cruelly that he fractured his skull. Count Kleist has been re-arrested and taken back to prison.

After the Count's attack on Herr Albert, in September last, he was confined in a lunatic asylum on the ground that he was insane. On September and he was removed from the asylum by order of the Crown Solicitor, who was of the opinion that the Count's insanity was only shammed for the purpose of taking advantage of the capital opportunity to escape to the United States. He was consequently placed in the Monastir Jail, and, being an officer in the army, his name was struck off the army list.

During the morning of September 10th Count Kleist attempted to commit suicide by hanging himself with his suspender from a beam in his cell, but was discovered and cut down before life was extin'.

Until a month before that time Count Kleist had been engaged to the beautiful and wealthy daughter of Mayor Thompson of Detroit, Michigan. At the time of the Count's attempt at suicide it was said that the motive for the act was mortification over his expulsion from the army. He was also said to have been deeply affected by the suicide of his friend Count Schleifer, the moral responsibility for which was said to rest with Count Kleist. Count Schleifer ruined himself by gambling and committed suicide by shooting himself on September 19th, 1890.

The Political Correspondence publishes a rumor that the English and United States Governments have agreed to submit the Bosphorus Sea question to the arbitration of King Humbert of Italy.

The German Government had decided to send a war vessel to China in order to protect German interests in that country.

Bismarck, responding to a delegation which visited him for the purpose of presenting him with the freedom of the city of Augsburg, said he did not desire to harp at Chancellor Caprivi, but when dangers menaced the empire he must sound a war warning. "I wish," he said, "to maintain the peasantry, but I disagree with policies which remove corn duties and give us Jesus." It is supposed that Count Shouvaloff, the Russian Ambassador to Germany, who visited Prince Bismarck on Thursday last, conveyed to the ex-Chancellor a warning from Emperor William.

GLASGOW, February 16th. Antonio Piero of Greece wrestled to-night with Tom Cannon of America for the championship of the world, and beat Cannon by two falls to one. Cannon protested, but his protest was not allowed.

RIO JANEIRO, February 16th. In the Assembly the Constitution passed its second reading. The election for President of the republic will be held immediately. The leading candidates for the Presidency are General de Venosa, chief of the government

Government, and Senator Morales, Governor of the province of São Paulo.

SUAKIN, February 16th.

The Egyptian troops have been concentrated at Trinkat. Small patrols of the army are hovering around El Teb, though the main body of Osman Digna's troops are at Tokar. The Egyptian troops will to-morrow occupy and entrench El Teb.

MADRID, February 16th.

The return so far of the Senatorial elections in Spain shows that the Government won 130 out of 160 seats. The Liberals, who hoped to gain, were bitterly disappointed.

BURGOS AVRES, February 16th.

Owing to rumors of a fresh revolutionary plot the Government has placed all the troops under arms. The streets are patrolled by cavalry.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 16th.

Prince Vassilsky and Lieutenant Tomonosaw fought a duel to-day, and the latter was killed. Both were officers of the Imperial Guard.

SOFIA, February 16th.

The body of Padlewski, who was charged with murdering General Siversoff in Paris, has been found half devoured by wolves between Philippopolis and Kanzatik. The body has been identified by documents in the pockets of the clothing.

LONDON, February 17th.

In the House of Lords to-day, replying to questions about the convention between Newfoundland and the United States, the delay regarding which is causing dissatisfaction in Newfoundland, Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State, said that the Imperial Government had been condemned for breaking its engagements, but none were ever given. It may at some time be possible to secure for the colony the advantages it desires without prejudicing the interests of other parts of the empire, but imperial consent to negotiate separate arrangements has always been subject to a well-recognized principle that the imperial Government must see how far the proposed terms affect other interests of the empire. Leave to negotiate does not imply Imperial sanction.

The Canadian Government made a strong protest against the Newfoundland convention with the United States, and after mature deliberation the Government decided that it could not, for the present, be completed.

In the Commons this evening Mr. Vincent moved that the Government at the earliest opportunity invite the British colonies to conference in London to debate upon the best mode of forming a Zollverein. He contended that imperial federation was only to be obtained through commercial federation. A lengthy debate followed, participated in by Sir Lyon Playfair, Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and others. The latter believed that the increasing desire for closer union between England and the colonies ought to be fostered. There was no likelihood, however, that the colonies would consent to a conference on a free-trade basis. There only remained differential duties, and he failed to see how they could be imposed. Mr. Vincent withdrew his motion.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

CAIRO, March 4th.

The Sudan force lately operating against Tokar has been dispersed. A garrison of fifteen hundred will remain at Afrite with a detachment at El Teb fort and Trinkat. The whole will be designated the Tokar sub-district and be under the command of Major G. W. Hockett, Plain Civil Government has been formed under a native Governor.

LONDON, March 6th.

A financial panic has taken place at Buenos Ayres where the Government have issued a decree closing the Bolsa banks and customs for two days, owing to a run on the provincial bank.

Although Lord Salisbury is most anxious to come to some arrangement in regard to South Africa, Portugal refuses the British conditions and a settlement is therefore considered to be improbable.

ORTAWA, March 6th.

The Canadian elections have been finished. Several Ministers have been defeated and the Government majority has been reduced by half.

WASHINGTON, March 6th.

The Treasury is taxing exported gold bars and if this fails to stop the influx it may refuse to exchange bars for shipment.

LONDON, March 6th.

A resolution brought forward in the House of Commons by Mr. Clark, member for Cottenham, in favour of separate legislation for England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, collapsed on the House being counted out.

General Booth, head of the Salvation Army, is confined to bed by a serious chill.

March 8th.

Mr. Gerald Portal has been appointed to succeed C. L. Ewan Smith at Zanzibar.

The London stock exchange is depressed owing to forced sales on provincial account.

The Liberals of the Forest-of-Dean have nominated Sir Charles Dilke as their candidate at the next election.

The miners of all Earl Londonderry's collieries have struck work as a protest against the Silkworm evictions. Six thousand are now on strike.

At the coroner's inquest on the body of Mr. Autobus, the jury returned a verdict that deceased met his death by accidentally shooting himself.

The financial panic in the Argentine Republic is over, and the popular loan is being arranged at the cost of Government; business will be resumed to-morrow.

BURGOS AVRES, March 8th.

A decree has been issued by the Argentine Government suspending payments by the Banks for three days during subscription to the national loan.

SUAKIN, March 8th.

A great meeting of Sheikhs has taken place here, at which General Grenfell read a telegram received from the Khedive decreeing a general amnesty. The clemency of the Khedive has been the subject of great rejoicing here.

PARIS, March 9th.

Prince Jerome Napoleon is dying.

LONDON, March 9th.

Messrs. John O'Connor, James O'Kelly, William Redmond and James Harrison sailed yesterday for New York from Queenstown, where their reception was most hostile, and a conflict between their supporters and those of Mr. Justin McCarthy took place. The police eventually dispersed the combatants.

March 10th.

General Edwards read a paper at the Colonial Institute, in which he urged Parliament to maintain the strength of our navy so as to enable Great Britain to take the offensive in time of war. He also advocated the holding of an imperial convention to consider a plan of defence for the empire. Lord Braxby and several generals who were present supported the speaker.

THE AUDIENCE AND THE BANQUET.

The following is the full text of the speech and addresses made at the two ceremonies on the 5th and 6th instant:—

Address of the German Minister as Doyen at the General reception of the Diplomatic Body by His Majesty the Emperor of China on the 5th of March, 1891.

SING.—The members of the Diplomatic Body resident at Peking have, to-day, for the first time

the opportunity and the honour to be able to offer in person their respectful wishes to Your Majesty.

They do so with the conviction that the policy inaugurated by Your Majesty will greatly contribute to augment and to strengthen the bonds of friendship which exist already, now so happily, between China and the countries and nations having treaty relations with it.

That such may be the case is the most fervent

hope of all the persons assembled here to-day, and while they offer to Your Majesty their sincere and most respectful felicitations on the occasion of the New Year just entered upon, they beg to allow to give expression to their hope and to their conviction that under the enlightened rule of Your Majesty the blessings of peace and happiness will be granted to the Imperial Dynasty and the people of China.

Reply of His Majesty the Emperor to the address of the Diplomatic Body presented

on the occasion of the audience on March 5th, 1891.

We have been greatly pleased by the felicitations offered to us by the honourable ministers and others (but shik chia tien). We hope

that Their Majesties the Sovereigns and the Rulers of the countries which you represent will

enjoy good health during the year just entered upon. We wish that the gentlemen here present

may remain yet many years in China, and we

hope that they may well in every respect and that all their

hopes may be fulfilled. We add to this the

further wish that the relations between China and the other countries may in future take the

friendly form.

Speech read by Mr. von Brandt as Dean of

the Diplomatic Body at the Banquet given

by the Tsungli Yamen on March 6th, 1891.

Your Highness and Your Excellencies.—I

give you great pleasure to be once more the mouthpiece of the diplomatic body in proposing the health of H.M. the Emperor.

Nearly two years have gone by since at the

banquet given by order of H.M. the Empress

Regent to the Representatives of the treaty

Powers I had the honour of paying our respective

tribute of admiration to the virtues and

talents of Her Majesty, and to point out that the

banquet then offered to the foreign Representatives

and still more so the reasons which had

been put forward in the Imperial edict for doing

such an honour to them, might be considered as

a new point of departure, and as indicating

that the work of the Tsungli Yamen had begun.

And now, in the present circumstances, I

give you great pleasure to be once more the

mouthpiece of the diplomatic body in

proposing the health of H.M. the Emperor.

My Colleagues and myself have been deeply

moved by this Imperial acknowledgment of our

desire to strengthen the friendly relations

between China and the treaty powers; we gladly

rejoice in the audience granted yesterday to

the foreign Representatives and the whole

Diplomatic Body and in this to take place in

future a further advance in the direction indicated

by the edict of Her Majesty the Empress Regent issued two years ago; we fully trust and believe in the will and the power of His Majesty the Emperor to carry out his policy announced by him in his edict of December last and to bring about that which we consider as His Majesty's

ultimate aim, a perfect understanding between

China and the Treaty Powers, and the welfare

and happiness of His Majesty, the Imperial Dynasty and the people of China.

To the health of H. M. the Emperor.

Reply of H. H. Prince Ch'ing to the speech of

the Dean of the Diplomatic Body at the

banquet given at the Tsungli Yamen on

March 6th, 1891.

The words of the Foreign Representatives in

the speech just read contain a warm appreciation

To-day's
Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL
CITY HALL, HONGKONG.
TO-MORROW,
(THURSDAY), the 26th March,

GRAND MILITARY NIGHT,
Under the distinguished patronage and in
presence of His Excellency Major-General
G. DIGBY BARKER, C.B., Commanding
the Forces in China and Hongkong.

Mr. GEO. C. MILN
supported by
MISS LOUISE JORDAN & ORIGINAL
COMPANY,

IN
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Mr. G. C. MILN as Shylock.
Miss LOUISE JORDAN as Portia.

SATURDAY, the 28th March,
"RICHARD III."

Popular Prices: \$2 and \$1. Soldiers and
Sailors Half-price to Pit.

Box Plan at Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

Doors open 8.30. Commence 9 prompt.
Hongkong, 25th March, 1891. [476]

INTIMATION.

F. Blackhead & Co.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,

AND

PROVISION MERCHANTS,
NAVY CONTRACTORS,

AND

GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS,
No. 11, Praya Central
(Opposite Pudder's Wharf).

SOLE AGENTS
for
RAHTJEN'S

GENUINE
COMPOSITION
FOR
THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.

HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, specially man-
ufactured for coating the inside of STEEL SHIPS.

SPECIALLY SELECTED,
EX. PRIME, PORK and BEEF in Barrels.

Also
AMERICAN PRIME SUGAR-CURED
HAMS and BACON.

CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX CLARETS.

CEMENT from the celebrated Factory of Hem-
moor.

FLensburg STOCK BEER,
ENGINEERS' and BLACKSMITHS'
MACHINERY AND TOOLS.

EVERY KIND OF
SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES
ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT
REASONABLE PRICES.

ALL KINDS OF

COALS
SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

Hongkong, 25th March, 1891. [472]

MASONIC.



VICTORIA PRECEPTORY.

A REGULAR MEETING of the Victoria
Preceptory will be held on TUESDAY
NEXT, the 25th instant, at 5 for 5.30 p.m.,
precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited
to attend.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1891. [483]

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

DOG CART AND PONY, and set of English
harness never used. The Pony is a per-
fect Lady's Hack.

Apply to
CAPTAIN GARDINER.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1891. [450]

FOR SALE.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY, Published
at the Office of the Hongkong Telegraph,
is the best and most complete work of the kind
ever published in the FAR EAST. The Directory
contains all the latest and most reliable information
concerning China, Japan and all the other
Countries in the East.

PRICE \$3.00

To be obtained from all Booksellers in China
and Japan.

Hongkong, 23rd March, 1891.

FOR SALE.

THE Schooner "MONTIARA,"
Length.....75 feet.
Beam.....18 "
Depth of hold.....75 "
Registered tonnage.....75 tons.
(Owing to recent alterations the carrying
capacity of the Montiara has been increased to
about 120 tons, dead weight.)

The Montiara was built in Singapore, and is
most solidly constructed of teak throughout, with
iron-wood frames. She has recently been
thoroughly overhauled under experienced Euro-
pean superintendence, fastened throughout with
7 inch galvanized spikes, and newly re-coppered.
She is larch-tongued with the best canvas sail.
Draft of water 7 feet.

For further particulars apply to

R. FRASER-SMITH,

6, Pudder's Hill.

Hongkong, 9th April, 1891. [455]

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVER-
LAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING
AT YOKOHAMA, SAN
FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship

"CHINA"

will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via
YOKOHAMA on THURSDAY, the 26th and April
at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for
Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for trans-
portation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports,
to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities
of the United States, via Overland Railways, to
Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports
in Mexico, Central and South America, by the
Company's connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England
France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines
of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return, 393.75
available for 6 months.

To Liverpool.....125.00
To London.....325.00
To other European Points at proportionate
rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers
of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the
Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on
application.

Passengers by this line have the option of
proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific
and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern
Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embark-
ing at San Francisco for China or Japan (or
vice versa) within one year will be allowed a
discount of 10 per cent. from Return Fare.

Return Tickets.—First and second class only.
Prepaid return tickets to Pacific Coast Points,
and to Eastern and Interior Points of Canada
and U.S.A. will be granted, available for
12 months at 25 per cent. of Return Fare.

Consignor Invoices to accompany Cargo des-
tined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the
United States, should be sent to the Company's
Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the
Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and
Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company
No. 50, Queen's Road Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1891. [481]

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ,
PORT SAID, BRINDISI, GENOA,
ANTWERP, BREMEN & HAMBURG,
PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK
SEA AND BALTIc PORTS;

ALSO
LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON,
BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS,
GALVESTON, AND SOUTH
AMERICAN PORTS.

THE COMPANY'S STEAMERS WILL CALL AT
SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS
AND LUGGAGE.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills
of Lading for the principal places in
RUSSIA.

ON SUNDAY, the 18th day of April,
1891, at 11 A.M., the Company's Steamship
"SACHSEN," Captain K. von Gossel, with
MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE & CARGO,
will leave this Port as above, Calling at GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon,
Cargo will be received on Board until 4 P.M.
Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m., on the 18th
April. (Parcels are not to be sent on Board;
they must be left at the Agency's Office).

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation
and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.
For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1891. [481]

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO
JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES,
MEXICO,
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND
EUROPE;

VIA
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,
AND
ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING
STEAMERS.

THE Steamship

"BELGIC"

will be despatched for San Francisco, via
Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 14th April,
at 1 P.M.

Connection will be made at Yokohama with
Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to
address in full, and same will be received at
the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day
previous to sailing.

Freight Rates granted as follows:—

To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return, 393.75
available for 6 months.

To Liverpool.....325.00
To London.....332.00

To other European Points at proportionate
rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers
of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the
Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on
application.

Passengers by this line have the option of
proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific
and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern
Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embark-
ing at San Francisco for China or Japan (or
vice versa) within one year will be allowed a
discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does
not apply to through fares from China and
Japan to Europe.

Consignor Invoices to accompany Cargo des-
tined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the
United States, should be sent to the Company's
Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the
Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and
Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company,
No. 50, Queen's Road Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1891. [481]

Mails.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM
HONGKONG, 1891.

Empress of India.....Tuesday, April 7th.
Parthia.....Tuesday, May 5th.
Empress of Japan.....Tuesday, June 2nd.

THE Steamship

"EMPEROR OF INDIA"

Captain O. P. Marshall, R.N.R., sailing at Noon,
on TUESDAY, the 7th April, with Her
Majesty's Mails, will proceed to VANCOUVER,
via SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, INLAND
SEA, KOBE, and YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

FROM HONGKONG, FIRST CLASS.

To Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimalt,
New Westminster, Port Townsend, \$225.00
Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O., \$225.00
To Whilngip, \$225.00
To Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, \$225.00
To Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Milwaukee,
\$225.00

To Detroit, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus,
Hamilton, London, Ontario, \$205.00
Toronto, Niagara Falls, \$205.00

To Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec,
New York, Albany, Troy, Rochester, Baltimore,
Pittsburg, Washington, Boston, Portland, Halifax, St. John,

To Liverpool, \$205.00
To London, \$225.00

To other European Points at proportionate
rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers
of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the
Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on
application.

Passengers by this line have the option of
proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific
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No. 50, Queen's Road Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1891. [481]

Amusements.

THEATRE ROYAL
CITY HALL

Under the distinguished patronage of
His Excellency the Governor Sir GEORGE
WILLIAM DES VIEUX, K.C.M.G.

MADAME PATEY
AND
HER CONCERT PARTY.

GOOD FRIDAY.

Owing to the postponement of the *Tristan*, till
Saturday, MADAME PATEY has been
requested to give performance of

HANDEL'S "MESSIAH,"

on the evening of

GOOD FRIDAY, the 27th March,

when she will be assisted by several Lady and
Gentlemen Amateurs who have kindly volun-
teered their services.

POPULAR PRICES.

Dress Circle and Stalls.....\$2.00
Back Seats.....1.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

Cheung Kong Telegraph.

N°. 2802.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1891.

A MILITARY PROPHET.

LORD WOLSELEY, Britain's "only General," and a pan-and-link soldier at that, has been trying his "prentice han" at prophecy in a recent issue of the *Review of Reviews*. He says China is the coming nation, and that the Mongolians will over-run the world. Here are a few chunks of wisdom from the pen of the pipe-clay warrior who didn't relieve Gordon at Khartoum:—"The battle of Armageddon will take place between the Chinese and the English-speaking races. There will be, I assume, another war between France and Germany, and it will be about the bloodiest war, or series of wars which we have seen in Europe. But, some day, a great general or lawgiver will arise in China, and the Chinese, who have been motionless for three centuries, will begin to progress. They will take in the profession of arms, and then they will hurl themselves upon the Russian Empire. Before the Chinese armies—she has no military nation, she has no ambitious schemes of conquest, and she only wants to be left alone to pursue her destiny in her own way. For the protection of her own rights she will fight stubbornly against all comers, but, outside the limits of the Middle Kingdom and its dependencies, she has no desire for conquest, and if that desire did exist, she has no power to carry it out. The next time Lord WOLSELEY rushes into print regarding matters Chinese, it would be just as well if he took the trouble to verify the ridiculous impressions he appears to have formed on mere hearsay, or the idle chatter of some irresponsible globe-trotter.

regular army, nothing but a heterogeneous mass of coolies and ragamuffins, armed with ancient muskets that won't go off, bows and arrows, tridents, spears, and other gruesome weapons that are only fit for a museum.

The conqueror of ARABI PASHA may set his mind at rest. China has no intention of hurling itself upon the Russian Empire; in the wildest dreams of its most ambitious and pugnacious rulers, the idea of overrunning India and sweeping us into the sea has never found a place; and the general or statesman who seriously proposed to the Dragon Throne to make a clean sweep of England, America and Australia, would be shorter by a head before he had time to think twice. China is not a military nation, she has no ambitious schemes of conquest, and she only wants to be left alone to pursue her destiny in her own way. For the protection of her own rights she will fight stubbornly against all comers, but, outside the limits of the Middle Kingdom and its dependencies, she has no desire for conquest, and if that desire did exist, she has no power to carry it out. The next time Lord WOLSELEY rushes into print regarding matters Chinese, it would be just as well if he took the trouble to verify the ridiculous impressions he appears to have formed on mere hearsay, or the idle chatter of some irresponsible globe-trotter.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

More than a thousand prisoners are being treated for beri-beri at Buitenzorg (Java).

THE Chinese cruisers *Chiyuan* and *Ching-yuan*, arrived here on the 2nd inst. from Shanghai and exchanged the usual salutes.

The griffins have commenced to arrive at Shanghai from the North. A mob of ninety-seven from Tientsin were landed by the steamer *El Dorado* on the 14th inst.

The dredging operations at Woosung are stated to be nearly completed, and the city magistrate of Shanghai has been making the final examination before reporting to the Governor.

HIS Excellency the Governor has appointed Lieut. W. C. A. Nicholson, R.A., to be temporary Adjutant of the Hongkong Volunteers, vice Lieut. W. H. Lee, R.A., who has left the colony.

How is this for high? An American paper says that in the Taiping rebellion of a third of a century ago in China, the Emperor raised a large army of women to assist his male soldiers in saving the Empress.

THE *Sidao* states that the grand and beautiful residence of the well-known Yen Ssung-fu, a rich salt merchant and director of the Tientsin Tungkong Company, has been completely burned down in Tientsin. The fire lasted all night, but the house was surrounded by high fire walls the buildings in the vicinity were untouched.

Mr. H. E. Wodehouse, police magistrate and superintendent of the Fire Brigade, has been granted four months' vacation leave and eight months' leave of absence on half pay. During Mr. Wodehouse's absence Mr. George Horrocks will act as chief of the Fire Brigade, with Mr. Arthur Chapman as deputy.

A NATIVE paper states that coal of exceptionally fine quality is found in large quantities in the Ch'angchow district of Shantung. A certain Mr. Yang has petitioned the Governor to permit him to work the coal mines by machinery, at the same time giving the poor people from the famine districts some work to do. It is said that the Governor has sanctioned the request.

REGARDING the division in the Singapore Legislative Council on the Military Contribution vote, the *Straits Times* remarks:—

It was almost to note how the official voices were given yesterday in the majority of voices the silence was as deep as if they were voting "aye" reluctantly, and even with a *disgust*.

We wonder what the feelings of our Hongkong officers were, under almost similar circumstances, last Thursday!

The China Merchants' Co.'s river steamer

Kiangwan came out of Dock a couple of days ago and is now lying at the Company's buoy

whilst the Dock Co.'s carpenters finish off their part of the general overhaul.

The *Kiangwan* will, however, be detained in harbour pending the receipt of telegraphic instructions from the Chief Manager in the North, before resuming her usual run on the Canton river.

THE Governor of Macao his Excellency Custodio Miguel de Bois, his *alde-de-camp*, and Madame de Bois, arrived here on the 23d inst. by the *Hueng-han* on an official visit. There have been great preparations made for the reception of the *Cavewitch* in the neighbouring colony, but it is said that news has lately arrived there from the Russian Consul at this port to the effect that his Imperial Highness will not be able to "do" the Holy City.

It is alleged, says the *Huas*, that on account of the heavy fog which hung over Foochow and its suburbs on the 18th day of the first moon, people are dying from a certain malignant epidemic which broke out since that inauspicious day. Out of one village of over 500 families 51 persons died, while another country town reported more than 40 deaths. The total number of deaths in and out of Foochow, up to the present time, is estimated to be over 4,000.

His lordship is also entirely wrong in his estimate of the Chinese as soldiers; he says they possess every military virtue, are stolidly indifferent to death, and capable of inexhaustible endurance. Greater nonsense was never seen in print. The Chinese are undoubtedly brave, and when well led, will seldom go back; but they are not amenable to strict discipline, they are easily driven into a panic, their alleged extraordinary endurance is a myth, their "physical" weakness "would" never stand against a rush with the bayonet of a foreign army, they do not possess one iota of what Englishmen call dash and Frenchmen *esprit*, and they "don't" like fighting and wouldn't be soldiers if they could be anything else. Add to all this that, with the exception of Lt. Hsu-chuan's foreigned contingent in Chihli and a few detachments on the Mongolian frontier, China has no

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1891.

CHOLERA continues to make its presence felt among the native population at Bangkok, the deaths being roughly estimated at 40 per day. The *Siam Gazette* thinks that with very little trouble the authorities would be able to furnish accurate figures, but this they do not attempt to do. With the exception of a few sailors, no Europeans have been attacked this season.

THE attention of speculative concessionaries at Batavia has, says a Singapore paper, been attracted to the petty State of Landak in Netherland's West Borneo. That principality is rumoured to be rich in diamonds and gold, the mines being worked in the native fashion, and the rivers lend themselves readily to industrial enterprise. Report has it that the Sultan of the State is rough and uncivilised, and too much given to strong drink, but he bears the reputation of being sharp-witted, and being one whose word is as good as his bond.

SAYS the *N. C. Daily News*:—According to a private letter received from Chungking, that port was to be formally opened on the 1st of March. Under the conditions to which our government has agreed, in the face of the melancholy "divergence of opinion," we do not know that the exact date of opening is of much consequence to any one, but some authority might have notified it, in case there was any one anxious to establish himself in business there. As Chungking was to be opened, according to the agreement, on the 18th of January, when the ratifications were exchanged, there was plenty of time between that date and the 1st of March to notify the public. We put the date on record now, so that when Chungking holds its jubilee, in 1911, there may be no question about the exact date.

WE regret to hear of the death, at Tacoma, of Capt. H. C. Dearborn, an old hand on the China coast and well known in Hongkong as commander of the Pacific Mail Co.'s steamship *City of Peking*. Capt. Dearborn was originally in command of the *Oregon* when the Pacific Mail Co. had a line of steamers between Yokohama and Shanghai, and when that Company sold out to the Mituo Bishi, he was for many years employed between Yokohama and San Francisco and afterwards between San Francisco and Australia. It will be remembered that he was in command of the *City of Peking* when she collided with the *Messengers Maritimes* steamer *Saghalin* in Hongkong harbour on the 29th September, 1886, and in the following year he retired from sea-going life and settled down as a marine surveyor at Tacoma. A Yokohama contemporary hears that the cause of death was brain fever, brought on by the bursting of a blood-vessel in the head. The funeral took place on February 16th. No more deservedly popular skipper than Capt. Dearborn ever entered this port, and his sudden and totally unexpected death will be sincerely regretted by all who knew him.

THE Tokyo papers during the last few days have, says the *Japan Herald*, been publishing alarming news from Shih. It is stated the Chinese Resident, Mr. Yuan, has approached the Korean Court with two proposals of startling nature. One relates to a treaty by which Korea gave to Russia great privileges of commerce and navigation on portions of the coast and on her borders. Several years ago, when this treaty was first concluded between the two countries, Mr. Yuan remonstrated with the Korean Government, and it was only the year before last that the treaty was ratified. As to the details of the demands preferred by the Chinese Resident in the present instance, no accurate information is given in any of the reports thus far published. The other proposal is said to have for its object the abdication of the present King in favour of his son. Some of the correspondents say that the Koreans are not very well disposed to China, and that they resent the interference of their western neighbour. The report published in the *Kokka* states that the graves of the late King and Queen have been dug up and that all the jewels have been taken away. The grave keepers were sentenced to banishment for their negligence.

A NATIVE paper has the following:—"Though the officials in Hankow have been urging the tea-merchants to put forth their best efforts at the commencement of the tea-picking season, very few took the sound advice, because of the scarcity of money and the unwillingness on the part of native banks to advance the necessary funds. This state of things promises a bad year. A few days ago a very wealthy man placed enormous sums in the market which were quickly taken up by the almost desperate merchants in the tea trade, and now crowds of tea-pickers are being sent to the mountains to gather the first crop."

A CORRESPONDENT writing to the *Sumatra Courant* on the affairs of the island, *etc.* says:—On the 20th of February twenty-five men under the command of Captain and a lieutenant left the fort at Ketapang Dua to reconnoitre in the direction of a stockade from whence the Achinese were continually firing on the fort. They found the place unoccupied and the enemy being unaware of the presence of troops, were busy holding a bazaar behind the stockade. The soldiers opened fire and the Achinese fled, leaving their goods and eight dead behind them. A large number of weapons were captured. Whilst retreating one soldier was slightly wounded.

THE *Sidao* states that the grand and beautiful residence of the well-known Yen Ssung-fu, a rich salt merchant and director of the Tientsin Tungkong Company, has been completely burned down in Tientsin. The fire lasted all night, but the house was surrounded by high fire walls the buildings in the vicinity were untouched.

Mr. H. E. Wodehouse, police magistrate and superintendent of the Fire Brigade, has been granted four months' vacation leave and eight months' leave of absence on half pay. During Mr. Wodehouse's absence Mr. George Horrocks will act as chief of the Fire Brigade, with Mr. Arthur Chapman as deputy.

A NATIVE paper states that coal of exceptionally fine quality is found in large quantities in the Ch'angchow district of Shantung. A certain Mr. Yang has petitioned the Governor to permit him to work the coal mines by machinery, at the same time giving the poor people from the famine districts some work to do. It is said that the Governor has sanctioned the request.

REGARDING the division in the Singapore Legislative Council on the Military Contribution vote, the *Straits Times* remarks:—

It was almost to note how the official voices were given yesterday in the majority of voices the silence was as deep as if they were voting "aye" reluctantly, and even with a *disgust*.

We wonder what the feelings of our Hongkong officers were, under almost similar circumstances, last Thursday!

THE Governor of Macao his Excellency Custodio

Miguel de Bois, his *alde-de-camp*, and Madame de Bois, arrived here on the 23d inst. by the *Hueng-han* on an official visit. There have been

great preparations made for the reception of the *Cavewitch* in the neighbouring colony, but it is said that news has lately arrived there from the

Russian Consul at this port to the effect that his Imperial Highness will not be able to "do" the

Holy City.

It is alleged, says the *Huas*, that on account of the heavy fog which hung over Foochow and its suburbs on the 18th day of the first moon,

people are dying from a certain malignant epidemic which broke out since that inauspicious day. Out of one village of over 500 families 51 persons died, while another country town reported

more than 40 deaths. The total number of deaths in and out of Foochow, up to the present time, is estimated to be over 4,000.

His lordship is also entirely wrong in his estimate of the Chinese as soldiers; he says they possess every military virtue, are stolidly indifferent to death, and capable of inexhaustible endurance. Greater nonsense was never seen in print.

The Chinese are undoubtedly brave, and when well led, will seldom go back; but they are not amenable to strict discipline,

they are easily driven into a panic, their alleged extraordinary endurance is a myth,

their "physical" weakness "would" never stand against a rush with the bayonet of a foreign army, they do not possess one iota

of what Englishmen call dash and Frenchmen *esprit*, and they "don't" like fighting and

wouldn't be soldiers if they could be anything else. Add to all this that, with the exception of

Lt. Hsu-chuan's foreigned contingent in Chihli and a few detachments on the Mongolian frontier, China has no

regular army, nothing but a heterogeneous mass of coolies and ragamuffins, armed with ancient muskets that won't go off, bows and arrows, tridents, spears, and other gruesome weapons that are only fit for a museum.

The conqueror of ARABI PASHA may set his mind at rest. China has no intention of hurling itself upon the Russian Empire;

in the wildest dreams of its most ambitious and pugnacious rulers, the idea of overrunning India and sweeping us into the sea has never found a place; and the general or statesman who seriously proposed to the Dragon Throne to make a clean sweep of England, America and Australia, would be shorter by a head before he had time to think twice. China is not a military nation, she has no ambitious schemes of conquest, and she only wants to be left alone to pursue her destiny in her own way. For the protection of her own rights she will fight stubbornly against all comers, but, outside the limits of the Middle Kingdom and its dependencies, she has no desire for conquest, and if that desire did exist, she has no power to carry it out. The next time Lord WOLSELEY rushes into print regarding matters Chinese, it would be just as well if he took the trouble to verify the ridiculous impressions he appears to have formed on mere hearsay, or the idle chatter of some irresponsible globe-trotter.

THE *Long Range Subscription Challenge Cups* and Spoons, at 500 and 600 yards, were shot for on Saturday last. With the exception of one or two scores the shooting was very indifferent.

Mr. G. Haswell, R.N., won the Cup for the first time.

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SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice, and a Special Jury.)

March 20th.

A CLAIM OF \$1,300 ON A PROMISSORY NOTE.

This was a suit brought by John Minkinnett, a foreman in the Public Works Department, to recover \$1,300, balance alleged to be due on a joint promissory note for \$6,500, from Mr. Robert Fraser-Smith.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Messrs. Dennys and Mossop, was for the plaintiff; the defendant appeared in person.

The jurors were:—Messrs. E. Burnie, T. Howard, S. W. Coxon, H. Crawford, E. H. Melby, A. O'D. Gourdin and N. P. Dhalia.

Mr. Francis said this was an action for a joint and several promissory note signed by Robert Fraser-Smith and John Francis Webber. Mr. Fraser-Smith was alone sued in this action. The petition set out that on the 8th December, 1888, Robert Fraser-Smith, editor and proprietor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, and John Francis Webber, a solicitor of the colony, signed a joint promissory note by which they undertook to pay to John Minkinnett, an overseer of works, five months after date, the sum of \$6,500 with interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum. Mr. Webber had never paid anything on this note, either as principal or interest. The defendant had paid two sums, one of \$300 and one of \$100, and some three months ago had paid, on judgment being entered against him, the sum of \$5,674, leaving a balance of \$1,300 due, with interest from the date of issue of the writ. In his answer the defendant admitted signing the promissory note, but stated that there was a collateral agreement made at the time, by which he was answerable for \$5,000 and Mr. Webber for \$1,300. He further stated that he had paid \$300 and \$100, for which he held receipts, and the amount mentioned in the petition on judgment against him. He further stated that Mr. Webber had paid the plaintiff a sum of \$600 and that Leung Ayon had paid plaintiff on behalf of Mr. Webber a sum of \$700, and that nothing further remained due to plaintiff. Under the provisions of the code, section 62, where the burden of the proof was thrown on the defendant, he must begin. He (Mr. Francis) had stated, the pleadings, and the burden of proof was on the defendant to show, after admitting signing the note, that the sums mentioned in his answer had been paid.

Mr. Fraser-Smith said he was being sued for a sum of money which he did not acknowledge owing and it was for the plaintiff to prove his indebtedness. When the learned counsel took upon himself to predict that the defence was limited to one of payment of the debt he overshot the mark. It would be quite time enough for him to prophecy what the defence was when he had heard it.

His lordship said he thought the burden of proof was on the defendant. It was for him to prove that these amounts had been paid.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I don't think your lordship quite appreciates the situation.

His lordship—Don't be impudent!

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I did not intend to be, my lord.

His lordship—I presume here, and I thoroughly appreciate the position. You say this \$1,300 has been paid and it is for you to prove it.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Certainly, my lord, if that is your lordship's ruling, I only wish to disabuse your mind of the idea that I intended to be impudent. I think your lordship entirely misconstrued my remark.

His lordship—The only construction I could put on it was you intended to convey that it was for you and not me to decide as to the procedure. Your defence is that the money was paid and the onus is on you to prove it.

Mr. Fraser-Smith said he quite understood that. He was only sorry that his lordship should imagine for a moment that he intended to be impudent. Addressing the jury, defendant said he had been taken somewhat unawares in the position he had been placed by the ruling of the Court, which was no doubt perfectly correct. In his simplicity he had thought that when one person was suing another for a sum of money in a court of justice, it was for that person to come forward and prove his case. However, the onus had been thrown on him and he would shortly relate the circumstances of the transaction. In November, 1888, there was a case tried in that Court which was commonly known as the "Salt Corner case; his lordship presided and Mr. Francis appeared for his (Mr. Fraser-Smith's) friends. He was acting for certain Chinese concerned in that case, and had entered into arrangements on their behalf for the purchase of two gunboats in Canton. Disputes arose amongst the Chinese, the case came into Court, and the parties for whom he was acting lost the case. They were unable to carry out the contract that he had entered into on their behalf and he was left responsible. Some \$10,000 was required for the purchase of these gunboats and Mr. Webber, who acted in the case as solicitor, agreed to arrange a loan for \$5,000. Mr. Webber did so, and on the 8th December, 1888, defendant learned that the lender was Mr. Minkinnett, of the Public Works Department. When he went to sign the promissory note, Mr. Webber, who was apparently in a flourishing state of business, said he wanted accommodation for a short time, and asked him if he objected to signing a joint note for \$6,500 at which he (Webber) was to have \$1,300. He consented and signed the note, but to make sure that there should be no mistake, in the presence of the plaintiff a document was drawn up and signed by Mr. Webber and himself stating that \$5,000 was to be lent to him, and the other \$1,300 to Mr. Webber.

His lordship—The instrument upon which you are being sued is the joint promissory note, which the plaintiff holds as security.

Mr. Fraser-Smith said he submitted that there were circumstances under which even a promissory note might be set aside. He submitted that he ought to be allowed to make the existence of this agreement known to the jury. He had paid to the plaintiff through Mr. Webber two sums, one of \$300 and one of \$100, and he had been informed by Mr. Webber, when he made the last payment, that he (Webber) had added another \$100 to it when he handed it over to Minkinnett. He had over and over again made application to Minkinnett to render him an ac-

count of what he was personally liable for and he would settle, but Minkinnett had never done so. It was only when Webber had left the colony that this action was commenced. Even when he received a letter from plaintiff's solicitors he had written asking for an account to be sent him and he would pay it. An account was sent him but it was incorrect. The \$800 paid was not credited to him at all.

Mr. Francis—That amount went to the credit of interest that was overdue. There was never anything paid on account of principal.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—The statement made by the learned counsel is an absolute falsehood.

His lordship—I don't think that is a proper expression to use with reference to the learned counsel.

Mr. Francis—Do not interrupt him, my lord; please let him go on. He is only dying him self deeper and deeper in lies.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I apologise to the Court for using an improper expression—not to the learned counsel.

The following evidence on behalf of the defendant was then called—

Leung Ayon examined by the defendant, said—I am a shipchandler. I have been in Hongkong for over twenty years. In June last I entered into business relations with Mr. Webber. There was a partnership talked about between us, but nothing was settled. I met you in the Shumen Hotel in Canton in August last. Mr. Wilkinson was present. I had borrowed \$1,900 from Mr. Minkinnett in July last year on the security of an insurance policy. I did not pay Mr. Minkinnett \$700 on account of Mr. Webber. I see the cheque handed to me which is one for \$100 from Webber. I remember now that I did receive that sum from him, but I don't know what it was for. I cannot say whether I received any money from Webber on the 8th March, 1889. The \$100 received on the 1st February had nothing to do with the \$6,500; it was another note for \$1,000, which I held. I might have received other sums at later dates but cannot state positively for the reason that I keep no books at all—merely jot things down on bits of paper. I calculate interest on loan by writing it off on the back of the debt note.

At this juncture Mr. Fraser-Smith desired to put in evidence the diaries of Mr. J. F. Webber, as collateral proof of payment of certain sums on account at certain dates, but Mr. Francis objected and his lordship upheld the objection.

After some further examination, during which the defendant was frequently interrupted, both by the judge and the counsel for the plaintiff, which resulted in several neat "passages of words," the examination-in-chief of Minkinnett concluded.

Cross-examined by Mr. Francis—In the first instance the defendant and Webber got the money from the Bank. I gave security to the Bank and Webber drew the money. I don't know how it was drawn. I only know it was not repaid, and I had to make it good. I got \$600 from the Chinese bank and gave it to Mr. Webber and went with him to the O.B.C. and saw it paid in. In negotiating for this money from the O.B.C. I saw both Mr. Webber and Mr. Fraser-Smith. The joint promissory note was not signed by Mr. Fraser-Smith in my presence. At the time they got the money they did not tell me how the money was divided. They told me afterwards. I never received from Mr. Fraser-Smith's own hands any money on account of this note. From Mr. Webber I received \$300 and \$100. I received the \$300 on the 9th July, 1889. There was then over six months' interest due. On or about the 15th January, 1890, I received the \$100; I got it from Mr. Webber's clerk, Mr. Van Eps. There was then much more that that amount due as interest. I received no other amounts from Mr. Webber on the account. On the 20th August, 1889, I lent Mr. Webber \$600, and he paid it back on the 20th Sept. At the time he owed me another \$1,000 on another account, I am quite sure that the \$600 paid on Sept. 20th was for the loan and had nothing to do with the \$6,500. I never agreed to divide the amount of the promissory note and take two notes instead of the joint note. I have had one other transaction with Mr. Fraser-Smith. Besides this one, between the giving of the promissory note and the commencement of the action I saw Mr. Fraser-Smith in his office dozens of times. I never received \$700 from Ayon on account of this note. On the 13th June, 1890, I lent Webber and Ayon \$1,000 and Mr. Webber \$1,300. I think I said that I did not pay you the money, but that I presumed Mr. Webber did. Mr. Webber acted as my solicitor in the matter.

To the Court—The money was lent in this way. I became security in November 1888 on behalf of the O.B.C. and saw the note signed by Mr. Fraser-Smith and Mr. Webber for a fortnight. Mr. Fraser-Smith said it would only be for a day or two, a fortnight at the furthest. When the fortnight was up the money had not been paid into the Bank, and the manager wrote to me saying the money had to be paid. I went to Mr. Fraser-Smith's office; he said he had been disappointed and talked in the "only" way he does and proposed that I might try if I could get it from a Chinese Bank. I went to Mr. Webber and he said he had no money.

By the defendant—I met you on several occasions before you signed the note. I saw you in your office with Webber a fortnight before he left the Colony and you asked me to divide the note. I refused to do so. I did not see you sign the promissory note. Webber took it up to you; you were sick or something.

Mr. Francis—He wasn't dying, was he?

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I am sorry to have to make a complaint, my lord, of rudeness on the part of the learned counsel. Mr. Minkinnett said I was sick and Mr. Francis insultingly said "He wasn't dying, was he?"

His lordship—Oh I never mind; let's get on with your own way.

Mr. Fraser-Smith (to Mr. Francis)—I'll settle with you my own way.

Examination—Continued—I never saw the document signed by you and Webber, in which you state how the money was divided. I had no correspondence with you prior to the signing of the promissory note. I have written to you and applied to you personally for this money before Mr. Webber left the colony. I got a letter from you on the 14th March, 1890, asking the date was on the 20th Jan., 1890, when Webber wrote me that Minkinnett was pressing him for money and he wanted me to lend him \$600 to pay him something on account. I did not lend him the money, and the same afternoon Webber came to me and told me that he had got the money and had paid Minkinnett. I was continually pressing Mr. Webber to settle this matter. Mr. Minkinnett was only in my office four times, twice with Mr. Webber and twice alone. I saw him four times at Mr. Webber's, twice at his office, once after dinner and once at dinner. Beyond that I had never seen him. The 20th March I had borrowed \$1,000 for a friend of mine, and had receipts for the payment. I heard nothing on this matter of \$6,500 until I heard from Mr. Webber on the 13th May, 1890, saying that Minkinnett wanted some money on account of the promissory note signed by him. On the 20th September I had another note from Webber asking me if I could pay \$500 on account of the loan. I sent the \$500 once, and Mr. Webber returned the receipt, and said that he had paid Minkinnett \$100 before. The next thing I heard was on the 20th Jan., 1890, when Webber wrote me that Minkinnett was pressing him for money and he wanted me to lend him \$600 to pay him something on account. I did not think it was arranged. I did not have reason for not going on with the action till that time. Surely I could choose my own time? I received a letter from you on the 20th May in which you ask for an explanation of the letter from Dennys and Mossop, after the arrangement with me. That does not suggest to me that any arrangement had been made. On the 10th June I received a letter from you asking me to call on the following Sunday and make some arrangement for the settlement of your personal liability. I may have called on the following Sunday. I went to many times that I cannot remember particular times. I do not know that anything was arranged. The only thing I wanted was for you and Webber to settle up amicably, if possible. I did not want to force you and Webber into the Court.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—But your policy changed after Webber left the Colony.

Witness—Yes, I did.

His lordship—Did you ever tender the cheque?

Witness—No, my lord, but I had it ready. Well, the legal proceedings threatened to follow. On the 10th June, Mr. Minkinnett learned that Mr. Webber was in what is generally known as "Queen Street." On the Sunday preceding the 10th June Mr. Webber and Mr. Minkinnett called at my office. That was the last time I ever saw Mr. Minkinnett till I saw him in the Court. On the 10th June I wrote to him asking him to see me on the following Sunday and that arrangements would be made. That was my last communication with him on the matter. The next thing was a note from Messrs. Dennys and Mossop threatening legal proceedings. I wrote back, asking for an account of what was due to me to be sent and the amount would be duly paid. An account was sent to me which was incorrect.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Did you ever offer to put down the \$500?

Witness—Yes, I did.

His lordship—Did you ever tender the cheque?

Witness—No, my lord, but I had it ready. Well, the legal proceedings threatened to follow. On the 10th June, Mr. Minkinnett learned that Mr. Webber was in what is generally known as "Queen Street." On the Sunday preceding the 10th June Mr. Webber and Mr. Minkinnett called at my office. That was the last time I ever saw Mr. Minkinnett till I saw him in the Court. On the 10th June I wrote to him asking him to see me on the following Sunday and that arrangements would be made. That was my last communication with him on the matter. The next thing was a note from Messrs. Dennys and Mossop threatening legal proceedings.

Witness—Yes, I did. I gave the reason for that change. I called on you about a fortnight after Webber left the colony, and I asked you what you were going to do in the matter. You said it was very hard lines on you to have to pay this money, meaning the \$1,300 Webber got. I said "We'll divide the difference; you lose \$700 and I'll lose \$350" and you said, "No, not a d—d cash; you can go to Court and get it." I said "Very well, then we shall have to fight." You said "Yes, and I'll make it hot for you." I left. I remember the occasion because you showed me a letter you had received from a man

in the Chinese Customs, enclosing \$50 to send to Webber. You showed me this before we had declared war against each other. I arranged about the re-transfer with Tsang King of the promissory note by paying the money for it.

By the Court—When the fortnight was up, and the money was not paid into the O.B.C. I got the money from a Chinese bank and transferred the note to Tsang King. Afterwards I paid him the money and got the note re-transferred.

Mr. Francis—That amount went to the credit of interest that was overdue. There was never anything paid on account of principal.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—The statement made by the learned counsel is an absolute falsehood.

His lordship—I don't think that is a proper expression to use with reference to the learned counsel.

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After some further examination, during which the defendant was frequently interrupted, both by the judge and the counsel for the plaintiff, which resulted in several neat "passages of words," the examination-in-chief of Minkinnett concluded.

Cross-examined by Mr. Francis—Do not write to me about the witness box. I am the only witness in the witness box.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I do not write to you about the witness box.

His lordship—I do not write to you about the witness box.

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His lordship—I do not write to you about the witness box.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 19th inst. There were present—His Excellency the Governor, Sir G. William de Vaux, K.C.M.G. (President); Mr. W. M. Deane, C.M.G. (Acting Colonial Secretary); Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes (Colonial Treasurer); Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart (Registrar-General); Mr. S. Brown (Surveyor-General); Messrs. P. Ryrie, C. P. Chater, T. H. Whitehead, Ho Kai, and J. J. Keswick (unofficial members), and Mr. A. M. Thomson, Clerk of Councils.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

THE MILITARY (EXTRA) CONTRIBUTION.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved "that the vote for military contribution be considered."

His Excellency said, before honourable members expressed their views on this vote he thought well that he should explain more clearly the observations which he made on the last occasion, which might have been somewhat obscure—or not clearly understood. It appeared to him that the opposition had chiefly arisen owing to the unfortunate mistake of the Imperial Government in making the increase to the contribution provisional—dependent, more or less, on the augmentation to the strength of the Garrison. The question of whether the additional vote was right and just depended on circumstances, and on the response to two questions: First, having regard to the relative interests of the "mother country" and the Colony, is the proportion of the whole which we are now asked to "pay" greater than it ought to be in reference to the Imperial advantages which we reap by the connection that exists between the two? Second, is not suddenly great an amount asked for greater than we are able to bear without serious injury to our own prosperity? He did not think it would require much consideration by honourable members of the Council to give a ready answer to the first question. As far as he knew the promise of the Imperial authorities to increase the Forces here was aside from the real question at issue; nevertheless, in as much as the incidental expense was for our own benefit, here he could not think that the amount the Colony was called upon to bear was "unduly large," one, when it was borne in mind that it was only about one-fourth of the total cost of the Military forces in the Island—even after making large allowances for the large areas and buildings occupied, and apart from the cost of the up-keep of the fleet, for which the colony paid nothing. He questioned whether anyone, looking at it from that point of view, would declare the demand an unfair one. Then as to the colony's capacity to pay the contribution; that was a question surrounded with more doubt. After giving the subject very full consideration he had no doubt whatsoever that the colony could pay it without serious injury, but he could only say that for the present moment. In the course of a few years it might be very difficult to pay it, and the question would become a very important one especially as it was indicated in the War Office despatch that the sum now demanded would not be sufficient, later on. The gravity in the situation would be increased by that fact if the present condition of the Colony could not be guaranteed for any number of years. As it was clear that no such guarantee could be given, the question of probable future increase was a very important one, as regards the future. This colony was unquestionably regarded by the outside world as very wealthy; the figures in the trade impressed the outside world very largely and justly. But it must, of course, be borne in mind that our wealth almost entirely depended upon local circumstances. Our wealth depended on our trade, which was far more liable to be affected injuriously than was the trade of the United Kingdom. The trade of Hongkong was rather that of a great distributing centre—it exported articles just in the condition in which they were received. But the trade of the United Kingdom consisted largely in the production of manufactures which were exported. The Island of St. Thomas, in the West Indies, was a great distributing centre, 25 years ago. From the whole of the West Indies were supplied. To-day St. Thomas was little else than a coal depot for trading steamers—its function had gone. The immediate cause of the transition was to be found in the fact that the merchants of the Indies found it to their advantage to deal direct with the old country, which supplied them with their imports. Now, as regards our relative position to China—which compelled all vessels to pass close to our own doors—Hongkong was a very much better position than St. Thomas. He merely spoke of St. Thomas for it was a somewhat analogous case, but what had happened there showed how a large emporium of trade might, in a few years, be affected—though Hongkong was, from a geographical point of view, more favourably situated than St. Thomas. At the present time Hongkong was suffering from depression, attributable to three causes, namely, (a) The restrictive legislation against the Chinese in Australia and America. (b) The increased growth of the poppy in China which resulted in a diminution of the foreign (Indian) opium trade. (c) The decline in the export trade of Chinese teas, owing to the competition caused by the Canton and Indian teas.

It was also suffering from over-speculation; nevertheless he was pleased to see, despite the grave causes of depression, that the trade in other lines had not fallen off: the tonnage of the port, for instance, had increased. "The fall effect of the three above named adverse circumstances were not yet estimable, so it was quite possible that the Colony's capacity to pay the amount now demanded might be seriously affected in the course of a few years and become a great hardship to the colony, and unless the circumstances materially altered it would be very difficult to pay it." However, he mentioned the matter as a question of the future, and he did not believe that honourable members, taking everything into consideration, would regard it as other than a just and fair demand. On the other hand he felt sure that had not been for the unfortunate promise of the War Office referred to that the unofficial members would not have opposed the vote. He gathered that the opposition depended almost entirely on the unfortunate representations made when the vote was first urged on their attention. He had no doubt but that the increase of troops was put in the foreground, and therefore it was the more unfortunate that the promise was not fulfilled. But if the demand was a just one—and he believed he had—there were valid reasons that it was then it appeared to him that the mere failure of the promise had nothing to do with it. There was, doubtless, ground for complaint, but no ground for refusing to vote the money which hon. members would undoubtedly have voted but for the mistake referred to. To put the matter in an abstract form: if A is receiving a benefit from B for which a certain sum is fairly due, he is, morally bound to pay that debt because of a supererogatory promise by C which has not been fulfilled. No, I say he is equally bound in spite of the promise, and he would be more bound even if the promise had been made even if he had not been a party to it.

His agent. Recollect that in this case the beneficiary by our contribution is not the British Government, but the British tax-payer, and because a promise has been held out—it is not exactly a promise but an inducement—with regard to this vote by the British Government, and that inducement proves fallacious, we are now the less morally bound to the British taxpayers to pay what is justly their due. That is the view I have taken of it very strongly, and these being my reasons I can conscientiously say I can recommend this vote without any reluctance. He had sketched doubts of the future, but at the present time he could not help thinking that the Colony ought to pay the amount. He would be glad to hear what others might have to say on the subject.

Mr. Ryrie said, he had fully considered the question together with his unofficial colleagues. But they could not satisfy themselves of the necessity for payment of the extra contribution, or of the justice of the demand. It was all very well to say this Colony should pay the money, but in face of the fact that all public works were stopped by telegram and the colony was thus hampered in its progress he could not see the justice of the demand. It appeared that the Colony could only pay it by having something else cut off. If the Government had kept faith with the colony there would have been at least a *quid pro quo* for it in the shape of security, but now it was asked to pay without getting any return. At the present time the Garrison was not strong and unless materially assisted, in the hour of danger, by the Navy, it would be in a very bad way indeed. No doubt the Navy would assist in time of need, but it would be unreasonable to expect that all the fleet would be at our "beck and call"—we should have the vessels that could be spared, and no more. He might add that since the last meeting of Council all his unofficial colleagues had been in receipt of correspondence from Singapore and Ceylon, and it was a great pleasure to him to note that there the unofficial members had taken the part of the ratepayers. They were not the servants of the Colonial Office, but of the public, who paid no opportunity of discussing the vote in the manner they, the unofficials, could have desired. All he could say was that full opportunity had been given for discussion; and to say that no opportunity had been given—in the way indicated by the hon. member as desirable—was simply to state what was not true. Apart from the unfortunate C. O. and W. O. despatches, he considered the demand just, and would be a clear expression of opinion touching the breach of faith committed by the Government—the voice of the people would be heard with "no uncertain sound." It was a question which should be dealt with great care, and if the Council voted this sum the Imperial Government should perform its part of the bargain.

Mr. T. H. Whitehead said:—I have endeavoured to give due consideration to the remarks and the appeal made at the last meeting of Council to honourable members and the request not to place your Excellency in the painful position of being obliged to do your duty in face of their views, but I feel compelled to emphatically oppose this heavy money vote on its merits. The question of the extra military contribution was then put to the vote and resulted as follows:—

AVES.
H. E. the Governor. Mr. P. Ryrie.
Mr. W. M. Deane. Mr. T. H. Whitehead.
Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart. Mr. C. P. Chater.
Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes. Dr. Ho Kai.
Mr. S. Brown. Mr. J. J. Keswick.
Mr. W. M. Goodman.

The Government thus "swamped" the unofficials by the usual one (official) vote. During the voting there was a dead lock of 17, 16, 15, and 14, and last sentence of 8 of the C. O. despatch, also report on Hongkong Blue book for 1889. The increased contribution was voted by this Council last year entirely on the ground stated by Lord Kastorff, viz: that the proposed increased garrison would necessitate increased expenditure, and therefore there is no undue increase in the amounts recommended by the Secretary of State. The history of this vote is that the \$1,350 for the increase of salaries of the masters of Victoria College arose from a petition sent home by the masters last year, asking that they should be allowed the same rise as the other members of the Civil Service, and the Secretary of State has been pleased to approve of the petition with the small modification that the whole increase is not to be given at once, but by a gradual increment from year to year until the maximum is reached. I have therefore to move that this sum of \$1,350 be voted.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Mr. Ryrie—if we are to have an increased military contribution we cannot go on increasing salaries too. I will vote against all increases.

On the vote being put a division took place.

The Registrar-General asked if he was compelled to vote, or if he could remain neutral.

The Chairman said that as the hon. member was at the table he thought he must request him to vote.

The votes were recorded as follows:—

For. Against.
The Surveyor-General Mr. H. Whitehead.
The Registrar-General Mr. H. H. Ho.
The Colonial Treasurer Mr. J. J. Keswick.
The Attorney-General Mr. P. Ryrie.
Mr. C. P. Chater.

The vote was therefore passed.

VOTES PASSED.

The sums of \$600 for the salaries of two student interpreters, \$2,800 as a supplementary vote for Peak Water supply; \$600 as compensation allowance for the widow of the late Inspector Swanson of the H. K. Police Force; \$320 for the Postmaster-General's quarters for one year, \$2,365.40, equivalent to £85; for defraying the cost of analysing the observations and readings of the tides at Hongkong for 1887-88 and making the results available for future predictions; \$3,777.42 to cover payments for the undersigned works not completed before the 1st last December, and for which no provision has been made in this year's estimates, namely, re-draughting of Government Civil Hospital \$110,82, and construction of a storm water drain in Jubilee Street \$2,457.60. The unexpended balance from 1889 was \$19,263.35; \$2,600 to provide permanent moorings for the new hospital ship *Hymedea* also \$29,300, re-vote for the last two instalments to be paid for the building of the *Hymedea*, \$185, being undrawn salary of the third barraliff of the Supreme Court from 1st May to 22nd September, 1890, was voted to the first and second barraliffs in proportion recommended by the Registrar, the first and second barraliffs having done the work from the time the third barraliff succeeded until a successor was appointed; \$2,546.47 unexpended balance in 1889, on account of the Postmaster General's salary, \$485.50, excess overestimated cost; and \$688 as compensation allowance to the widow and children of the late H. L. Mathew, second light-keeper.

The passing of these votes brought the proceedings to a close.

THE GAMBLING ORDINANCE, 1891.

His Excellency—The next item on the orders of the day is the Committee on the Bill entitled the Gambling Ordinance, 1891. Now, I may state at once that after full consideration of this matter I have determined to proceed with the Ordinance. I have the distinct opinion that neither this Ordinance nor any other will have any great effect upon gambling in this Colony, the instinct for which is so ingrained in the constitution of the people, and if it were a question of beginning legislation I should decline to do anything in the absence of special instructions. But it is not a question of beginning legislation. We have at present on the Statute Book a law which, I may say, now becomes almost utterly useless. Whether the decisions are correct or not I do not know, but the result is that, by these decisions the law has been rendered almost, if not quite, useless. It would be better to have a new Bill before the Council that it affords a better chance of doing some good than the present law, or I believe any other that could be passed by

the Government. For this reason, as the principle of the Bill has received a considerable amount of support, not only in the Council but in the Colony generally, I intend to proceed with it, because it cannot make matters worse than they are, and may make them better. There is only one point as to which I was for a long time doubtful, and that is the question of corruption. Of course the stricter you make the law, the greater apparently is the inducement to corruption, but on the other hand it has been pointed out to me that we very well know now where the great gambling takes place, and we are always likely to know a short time after it has begun. The only reason we cannot touch it now is that the law in its present position does not enable us to do so. This law will enable us to touch this gambling at once, and though there may be greater inducement to corruption, if the places are not touched we shall know that corruption actually exists and know where it exists. It has been suggested, I fear, that notwithstanding the ground that there is a large amount of corruption, yet we are not certain about it. This law will enable us to touch this gambling at once, and though there may be greater inducement to corruption, if the places are not touched we shall know that corruption actually exists and know where it exists. It has been suggested, I fear, that notwithstanding the ground that there is a large amount of corruption, yet we are not certain about it. This law will enable us to touch this gambling at once, and though there may be greater inducement to corruption, if the places are not touched we shall know that corruption actually exists and know where it exists. It has been suggested, I fear, that notwithstanding the ground that there is a large amount of corruption, yet we are not certain about it. 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HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held on the afternoon of the 20th inst. in the City Hall, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Committee and the Secretary's accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1890. There were present:—Mr. E. Mackintosh (Chairman), Hon. J. J. Kewick (Vice-Chairman), Hon. P. Ryrie, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Messrs. W. H. Forbes, R. M. Gray, H. Hopplis, St. C. Michaelson (Committee), G. de Champeaux, G. Sharp, C. A. Tomas, G. Wieler, L. Poesnecker, H. W. Dick, and F. Henderson (Secretary).

The minutes of the last annual meeting, and of the special meeting held for the election of a member of the Legislative Council, were taken as read and duly confirmed.

The election as members of the Chamber of Messrs. The Trust and Loan Company of China, Japan and the Straits, Limited; Chater & Vernon, W. H. Young, E. & S. Coxon, Cowasjee Pallanjee & Co., Ming Kee Hong, Wy Sing Hong, Yuen Fat Hong, Cohen & Georg, Joseph & Levy, H. Z. Just, G. H. Potts, E. C. Ray, T. I. Rose, and G. D. Scott, was confirmed.

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, we have met to-day to receive the report of your Committee for the last twelve months. It is a document that does not possess many features of very great interest. Still, there are some subjects which I think merit attention at your hands. The first subject is the Convention between the Chinese Government and the Telegraph Companies. This Convention, I am happy to say, is, I think, not only scuttled, but killed. We see from the public prints that it is contemplated that a line of cable should be laid between America and Japan via Honolulu. This will help, I hope, to cheapen the rates that are charged for telegraphic messages, but I hardly think we shall be on an economical platform as regards cost of messages until we have the land lines between China and Europe. With these I think we should be fairly safe, in consequence of the competition we might expect, and also owing to land lines being less expensive and less costly to keep up. The next subject we deal with in our report is the Additional Articles in the Chefoo Convention and the opening of Chungking. The *iasco*, as I may call it, that has developed from this Convention is a master for the deepest regret. I think, however, it is no use to blame Her Britannic Majesty's Ministers for the want of success, for no doubt he has instructions from the home Government and has to follow them. Still, after the privilege of open trade to Chungking had been granted it seems very regrettable that it should be whittled down to trade in native boats, or if in foreign-owned boats, still boats of native pattern. I do not think the outcome of their diplomacy redounds at all to the credit of the British Government. My own opinion is that the special privileges we are supposed to have acquired by this Convention will amount to very little, and that they will not tend much to develop the trade of that particular district, of which we were so hopeful. It also appears to me that the Imperial Government of China have little ability to control Chinese officials at a distance from Peking, forcing to obstacles apparently thrown in the way by these native authorities at a distance the possibility of trade on the Upper Yangtze has been destroyed. It strikes me, however, that if the British Government had shown greater firmness in this matter with the Central Authorities we should have obtained the rights and concessions that were originally granted by the Chefoo Convention. I must say I feel strongly in this matter, and I think you will agree with me that the British Trade of China was not built up by such a vacillating and weak policy as has been displayed in this instance. However, the matter is finished and we must just accept the inevitable. The next point the Committee refer to in the report is the Ordinance to amend the law relating to the registration of trade marks and the Ordinance relating to fraudulent marks on merchandise. Notwithstanding the recommendation of your Committee the Government thought fit to pass a law relating to fraudulent marks on merchandise, although they have no machinery to carry out this particular law; they have no power whatever to enforce it, and it appears to me a considerable waste of energy to encumber the Statute Book of this colony with laws that are inoperative. The next subject is the emigration of coolies from Swatow not to British North Borneo. This paragraph touches an explanation due to the Consul at Swatow. In the correspondence published with the last report we touched on this subject, and what was said appears to have given the Consul a certain amount of umbrage, with the exception to it, I may say, that notwithstanding this so-called free emigration from Swatow not a single native can be despatched to British North Borneo under the British flag, though the Dutch Government have secured the privilege, presumably under some agreement with China, for regular deportations to take place from Swatow to Sumatra. One would think that under the "favoured nation" clause Great Britain was entitled to the same privilege, but apparently it is not given; the officials appear to be unable to obtain any such facilities for British North Borneo, though the country is clamouring for this particular class of labour; and I think the Government of British North Borneo would gladly accept any of the restrictions or regulations that have been applied. In the case of the emigration to Sumatra it is difficult to obtain the matter in a practical form. From returns furnished by the Government we find that from the 1st January last year to the 31st March, a period of three months, light dues were collected to the amount of \$8,192.99. On the 1st April the dues were increased, on account of the Gap Rock Light, and from the 1st April to the 30th November the dues collected amounted to \$5,417.64, making a total of \$64,237.63 for eleven months. There is one month more wanted to complete the year, which may be estimated at \$7,000, so that in round numbers we may say the total collection of light dues for the year amounted to \$71,000. On a similar basis we may take it that each twelve months that these increased dues are in force a revenue of \$85,000 will be collected, so that at the end of 1892, and including last year, the total receipts will amount to about \$241,000. That is in three years. Now, if we refer to another report, also furnished by the Government, we find that the cost of the up-keep of the present lighthouses is about \$6,000 a year.

For three years that would make a disbursement of \$18,000. I do not suppose the Gap Rock light-house will be finished and in working order until February or March next. If we add to that the expenditure for the up-keep of the Gap Rock Light, say \$4,000, which should be ample, and add further the capital cost of that light, which is not stated, but put it at \$160,000; and add further the cost of the cable which we recommend, say \$70,000; and we have a total disbursement of \$244,000. The whole of that will be recouped to the Government by the additional levy at the end of February or March, 1893. I think I need hardly point out that the success, prosperity, and well-being of this colony depends solely upon its shipping; in fact, it is its life-blood. Our landed property, our revenues from rent, and everything else is subservient to the shipping. Our very hopes of becoming a manufacturing centre in the future depend upon our shipping. Each vessel that passes through this harbour adds to the income of the commercial community of this place to an extent that would hardly be credited by a casual observer. I maintain, therefore, that it is the first duty of every colonist to attract as far as he possibly can, and not repel, the shipping of this colony. If possible we should do away with all official charges of every kind, not only light dues, but dues of every kind, and make the place so that it should be widely known throughout the world as absolutely free (applause). Shipping then would see this was a useful centre, when we gave all these facilities, and it would increase beyond what it now is. Our contemplated manufacturing industries would benefit by our capacity to receive raw products and ship the manufactured article to every port in the world at cheap rates. The amount received from the levy of these light dues is marked as distinctly as any fund can be. The dues are levied for a specific purpose; to collect more than is absolutely necessary for the capital cost of these lighthouses and for their up-keep is distinctly bad. It is not ordinary revenue. At home, I think I am right in stating, they have endeavoured as far as they possibly can to assimilate the income to the expenditure. In fact I believe that every year an independent Board makes a calculation of what the probable income will be, based on the previous year's receipts, and if the receipts exceed the expenditure a reduction is made, so as to bring about equilibrium. And I have seen it is stated that there is a strong movement at home to abolish the collection of light dues altogether and throw the cost of maintaining the lights on the imperial revenues of Great Britain. So we see what the feeling at home is on this subject.

Mr. Ryrie.—In America I believe there are no light dues.

The Chairman.—That I don't know. Perhaps Mr. Forbes can tell us.

Mr. Forbes.—I don't know.

The Chairman.—Well, what have we done? We have levied these dues, and the amount collected from 1875 to 1889 has been not only sufficient to extinguish the capital cost but we have piled up a fund which, if invested, would be sufficient to pay for the upkeep of all the lighthouses perpetually. This fund, I am sorry to say, has been merged in the general revenues of the colony, so that it is lost to the community, lost in the sense that it cannot now be used to grant to the shipping those facilities for which I strongly contend. His Excellency the Governor asked that it should be pointed out to him wherein a Lighthouse Board could do better than the Government. It is herein that the Government has done ill. A Board such as your committee propose would have brought forcibly to the notice of the Government the diversion of the fund that has been going on for the past sixteen years; they would, more persistently than has been done in the past, have shown the un-wisdom of this proceeding; they would have impressed on each successive Governor that the original levy was made on the distinct understanding that when the original cost of the lighthouses was recouped the dues were to be reduced or were to cease. Recently, on the imposition of the Gap Rock light dues, the question was again raised, and his Excellency himself recognised the justice of a reduction in the amount as soon as the lighthouse was paid for. Will his successor recognise it? At whose suggestion were these lighthouses built? Not at the suggestion of the Government, but that of the commercial community.

Mr. Ryrie.—The Chamber of Commerce.

The Chairman.—Yes, the commercial community represented by the Chamber of Commerce. The Government if left to itself would have done nothing. Surely the presence of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council as advisers to his Excellency is a sufficient parallel for the necessity of an Advisory Board to advise his Excellency on this subject; and I hope we shall see a further development from this Board, and that it will take the shape of a Harbour Board also. Of course we cannot find any fault with the officials. How can they be expected to know accurately the wants of the Colony? I have dealt with this subject at some length and I hope the new committee will take it up, as I consider it is one of the first importance in the Colony. The next question mentioned in the report is that of direct cable communication with Gap Rock. I think it goes without saying that when we get this valuable lighthouse it will be absolutely necessary and essential that we should have direct communication with it. The survey of the coast of China.—This, I think, were you consider in it as an unsatisfactory state. We appear to go by fits and starts. At one time the Navy give us "vessels" at another time they take them away, just as seems to suit them, but I think the community would be glad to see a continuous survey until the survey of the coast was complete. The Pinnacle Rock Fund follows the same question I have just spoken on. This fund, which is a valuable one, I think, for helping and assisting the survey, has not been touched upon for want of any vessel to carry out the survey. With regard to local weather signals, we have endeavoured, as you will see, to make them more suitable to the colony, and by the courtesy of Commodore Church we have been enabled to obtain certain privileges by which warnings are in future to be hoisted on the *Victor Emmanuel*. The reduction of postal rates to Europe.—It appears this colony will have to stand the loss, if there should be one, consequent on this reduction of postal rates. We tried to see, as far as we could, on whom the loss should fall, but in the absence of any accounts that are of any value we were unable to ascertain from which conclusion, but in our reply to the Government it was distinctly pointed out that the Continental countries through which the letters pass should bear their *postage*; but no doubt you will have seen, as I have seen, that there is a rumour that the Continental countries have declined to give up one single farthing of what is paid for them for the privilege of passing through their countries. The action taken by the Government in this matter, I think, is rather a leap in the dark. It appears to have been forced on them by the home Government in such a way that they had to come to some decision rapidly. This seems rather regrettable, for if more time had been allowed we should have been able to discuss the matter thoroughly and have seen, as regards the revenue of this colony, where the loss should fall. As a matter of benefit for the commerce of this colony I think there is no doubt the more we reduce postage the better. I now come to the "Sunday labour question." I now find that the cost of the up-keep of the present lighthouses is about \$6,000 a year.

Mr. Granville Sharp.—Sir, I think we are all of one opinion in reference to the concluding words of your address. I think we are now suffering the anticipated reaction to which we have been looking forward for three years past. There has been in this colony a spirit of gambling and inflation which has been very much deplored by some, especially those of us who, on account of our seniority, have seen these things again and again in other parts of the world. There is only one outcome to that spirit of unfair and untruthful, utterly untruthful, inflation which has marked the last three years, and the influence of which I consider has not been limited in its disastrous bearings to the trade of this place, for I think it has had a most disastrous influence also upon the character of a large number of

people. I think we are responsible for the mad and headlong career of the Chinese in the gambling, the sheer gambling, of the last three years. It could not have taken place if we all had exercised proper influence, especially those of us who are from our years entitled to exercise it, and if we had in an independent and truthful manner spoken what we believed and spoken loud enough to be heard. We have whispered it again and again among ourselves, and we have sniped and pocketed the money! We have smiled and pocketed the money, and that contrary to warnings from one and another. I think that we have lost character at home and throughout Europe, and I think the weakness and depression from which we are now suffering has been of our doing. I hope and trust the young men of Hongkong will learn a lesson from the present state of things to avoid that which has been the cause. I have seen these things again and again since 1844, when banks were bankrupted in England by the railway mania; I have seen these manias in India and here in Hongkong repeatedly, and I think nothing could be more astonishing than the protracted period during which this gambling was sustained. It lasted for fully three years. I think we must not be astonished at the present state of things. But for I do not doubt the future of Hongkong by any means. I believe the trade of the place exists as it has done from the beginning, and it is bound to increase. Our steamer lines are constantly increasing, and I look forward with confidence to a large accession of interest in this place from the arrival of travellers from all parts of the world, which will be beneficial in one way and another. We have now abundance of hotel accommodation and house accommodation, and I think it is well for the colony; in fact, that is one of the consolations we have for the past inflation. Nothing but the past inflation would have produced such accommodation as we have to offer to our visitors, whom we are expecting in a few days, the first instalment of 120 passengers by the *Empress of India*, and I hope they will take away a good account of this place and send several hundred more. I think we have to thank you, sir, for touching on the hardship to individuals. As to the whole question, I thoroughly concur in the statements made by the committee. We now come to the Merchant Shipping Amendment Act (No. 2) Bill. There is really nothing in this that interests us; it is a subject that refers more directly to the home trade than to this colony. This Sharebrokers' Association of Hongkong is an institution which I have reason to believe will be very useful to that part of the community, and I think we may wish them every success. We have had our election to the Legislative Council, that of Mr. Whitehead; and I think the Chamber's election, if I may be allowed to say so, has been justified by results. One subject is omitted from the report, and that is the *Namur* piracy. No mention is made of this simply because it has never been brought before the Committee officially, but speaking for myself I think if the powers of the executive were enlarged so that relation to the Chinese authorities of native criminals, not political, might be made easier and less expensive than at present we should do much not only to rid the colony of a class of inhabitants that are a danger to the community, but we should also save a very considerable expense, and I think some system surely could be devised that would enable us to weed out these bad characters without trenching on the liberties of *free* *fade* residents and the good and true men of the Colony. I think if we pursued some such course we should induce the Chinese authorities to take up more heavily than they have hitherto done the suppression of piracy in Chinese waters. At present if a man in Hongkong is wanted by the Chinese authorities all manner of formalities have to be gone through and great expense incurred. This disheartens and disgusts the Chinese authorities and possibly causes them to be more lethargic in their action when we place any measure before them required for the suppression of piracy in their waters. I may say to a man in Hongkong is wanted by the Chinese authorities all manner of formalities have to be gone through and great expense incurred. This disheartens and disgusts the Chinese authorities and possibly causes them to be more lethargic in their action when we place any measure before them required for the suppression of piracy in their waters. 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MARRIAGES.

At the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 16th instant, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., THOMAS W. BOWERN to JESSE HOLMES. On March 21st, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Right Rev. J. S. Burdon, D.D., Bishop of Victoria, Captain F. D. GONDARD, of Douglas Steamship Co.'s steamer *Nankee*, to MARIAN ALICE, only daughter of Alfred Joreland, Esq., Worcester.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1891.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

JOHN STUART MILL, who knew the world well, is responsible for the saying that the man who only knows his own side of a case, knows little of that. That appeared to be the position occupied by Governor *des Vaux* in the debate in the Legislative Council last Thursday on the vexed question of the Military Contribution. And yet the actual point in dispute between his Excellency and the unofficial members was simplicity itself. A demand was made by the Secretary of State over a year ago that an additional sum of £20,000 should be added to this colony's annual military contribution, on the ground that political necessities required the strengthening of our garrison by a new regiment, etc., being added to our present forces. It was on the distinct and definite promise that these additional troops would be forthcoming, and for no other reason and on no other grounds, that the extra vote of £20,000 was agreed to. The new regiment has not arrived, nor has any satisfactory explanation been given for its non-arrival, and therefore the unofficial members very properly have declined to tamely acquiesce in the tax-payers of Hongkong being deliberately victimised by the unscrupulous rapacity of the War Office, the lamentable supineness of Lord KNUTSFORD, and the much-to-be-deplored obliquity of his moral vision which has placed Governor *des Vaux* in his present untenable position. This is the whole matter in a nutshell; the question of the justice or injustice of an increased military contribution was not properly before the Council for discussion; all that ought to have been considered was whether or not a binding contract had been entered into between the Imperial Government and this colony and if the conditions of the same had been strictly carried out by both contracting parties. It is admitted that the Imperial authorities have utterly failed to cement their promise by fulfilment; and consequently it must be apparent to every right-thinking man that the original arrangement both in law and justice falls through and becomes null and void. But this is not Governor *des Vaux*'s idea of fair-play and the sacred character of official promises; he raised an entirely false issue which it was most irregular to discuss, and by the numerical force of the official phalanx arbitrarily and without a shadow of right or justice on his side forces the vote through the Council, extorting from the tax-payers the large sum of £20,000 for which they get absolutely no return. Nothing more shameful has ever blackened the official records of this colony, and that is the universal opinion of all classes in Hongkong, the select army of toadies and cravellers to an effete officialdom alone excepted.

But, even on his own conveniently appropriated quicksand base of contention, the Governor's arguments are either those of a school-boy or of an official bigot; We regret we can find no reasonable ground whatever to qualify this allegation. Perhaps his Excellency means well for those whose interests he is paid so handsomely to protect and conserve! Perhaps he doesn't! Who shall say? We can only judge of him by his actions, and that we shall do fearlessly and impartially, on this and on every other subject affecting the rights of our fellow citizens and the future welfare of Hongkong. His Excellency's claims to consideration in this colony are clearly set out in the second sentence of his speech last Thursday. He practically said that the Imperial Government had made a mistake in giving any reasons for the additional demand on our already notoriously depleted exchequer in reference to this military bugbear. If this is Sir WILLIAM *des Vaux*'s conception of his duty to a free British colony, the rejoicing that he is unable to serve the remainder of his term will be universal—always, excepting that class who languish after official patronage. The Governor of Hongkong in these days of advancing freedom must be the friend and supporter of the colony's rights—not the mere creature of a crowd of political schemers in Downing Street. We have said that the only question really at issue between the Government and the unofficial members was a simple matter of contract, and no argument can possibly shake our contention; but his Excellency tried his no doubt experienced hand at "bringing the changes," and he made a feeble show. He contented that the question in dispute depended on two answers—namely:—Having regard to the relative interest of the Mother Country and the Colony, in the object of the expenditure, is the proportion we are now asked to pay, even with the additional contribution, greater than we ought to pay for this Imperial protection?—and, is the amount we are asked to pay greater than we are able to pay without serious injury to our prosperity? Both these questions were quite outside the real matter at issue, but so far as we are concerned we have no hesitation in answering the first in the affirmative and the second in the negative. In 1863 it is just possible that Hongkong may have required military protection for local interests, to-day to talk of any such notwithstanding the Governor's wholly

necessity against Chinese rioters is absolute nonsense; as our powerful Police force is quite sufficient to ensure good order throughout the island. Any other defence, that is against Foreign Powers with whom it may suit Great Britain to go to war for Imperial reasons, has nothing to do with Hongkong. We have no voice in deciding any such war; we gain nothing by whatever success may be gained, we get no additional protection but have to run risks which are not of our making, and yet we are coolly asked to pay for soldiers whose sole mission here is to defend what are called Imperial rights. And nobody in his right mind would for a moment attempt to argue that a garrison numbering about twenty-six hundred troops, including the promised reinforcements which have not come, could for a single day defend Hongkong against the fleets of either France or Russia, or both combined—our defence is in the Royal Navy and in that alone. In our opinion Hongkong should not be called upon to pay a single cent for military protection which her own local interests do not require; and further, we consider that the financial position of the colony is such that even were we willing, the payment of this extra imposition would seriously handicap our resources. Governor *des Vaux* admits that it might become a hardship by and bye; we say it is a grievous hardship now, looking at the general stagnation of trade and the wholesale poverty which prevails everywhere, and we challenge him to deny it. His Excellency likewise admits that when this increased vote was originally granted the increase of troops was put in the foreground, and that it was on the strength of the promised increase the additional amount was passed; and yet he said, and we can only assume that he meant what he said, that the failure of the promise had nothing to do with the question whether the extra £20,000 should be voted or not. Comment on such an argument as this would be insulting the intelligence of our readers, and when his Excellency vehemently expresses the opinion that we are morally bound to pay, British tax-payers for the military protection of what are purely British interests, we feel inclined to go outside and weep copiously.

The observations of the Hon. P. RYRICK were, as usual in all affairs concerning the welfare of Hongkong and its social and commercial prosperity, to the point and admirable in every way. His reference to the important fact that all public works in progress had been suspended by a special telegraphic despatch from the Secretary of State, left the Governor completely stranded high and dry on his absurd argument as to the colony's imaginary elastic resources. And the venerable unofficial member struck the right key of public opinion when he stated that it was intended to call a meeting of the inhabitants of the colony so that they should have some say in a matter which concerned them so closely. The Hon. T. H. WILTRUTHHEAD has never spoken so well as on this occasion; his remarks were moderate and in good taste, and his arguments close, inclusive and practical. His quotations from official despatches showed the deliberate fraud the Imperial Government had committed Governor *des Vaux* to perpetrate on the tax-payers who pay him £32,000 per annum for protecting their interests, and, although the truth of these assertions could not be disputed or called into question, his Excellency had the means to insinuate that the hon. member was not speaking the truth and that he had indulged in "heroics." Even Sir George Bowes, and that is as near purgatory as we can go, never played the game lower one-sided.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Chinese Times announces that Senator H. W. Blair, of Manchester, N.H., has been appointed U. S. Minister to China.

FOR returning from banishment Chan Ayau, a bricklayer, was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour by Mr. Wise yesterday morning.

TELEGRAPHIC news has been received from Korea of the death, at Seoul, on the 8th inst., of M. J. K. K. Yachin, the newly-appointed Japanese Minister to Korea.

THE general health of the population of Macao has, we hear, greatly improved since the advent of the long-looked-for and much-needed rains that have fallen there during the past week.

AT a meeting of Englishmen held at the Shanghai Club on the 19th inst. it was proposed "That the English residents of Shanghai give a full jugde in September the same year. Some inkling of his past life coming to light, he was spoken of as the robber judge, which coming to the ears of the police, an Inspector who was acquainted with the circumstances connected with his previous arrest, was despatched to the place, and recognising him as the escaped convict, immediately arrested him and conveyed him to Nagasaki.

THE *Hu-huo* announces that the Tribune Rice Taotsi, Ching, arrived at Shanghai some days ago. The Customs Taotsi and the Intendant of Coast Defence have offered the usual sacrifice to the God of the Sea, and the first junks with tribute rice have started for the north.

We learn that the plans of the Trans-Siberian railway are now about completed. It was the original intention of the authorities to have spread the task of construction of the line over a period of ten years; but it has now been decided to finish it within three years.

We note that preparations are being made at the Harbour Office for the hoisting of typhoon signals similar to those exhibited at the Observatory. The signals, we understand, will be hoisted on the Harbour Office flagstaff simultaneously with, or a couple of minutes after, warnings given at Kowloon Point.

It is worthy of comment that at the public meeting held in Singapore to protest against the outrageous Military Contribution, the whole of the speakers were enthusiastically applauded excepting one. That one was Mr. H. M. Becker of Purjum notably, whose remarks appear to have been received in solemn silence. The Directors of the Purjum Company ought to be proud of their protégé!

OWING to the unsettled state of affairs at Chin-kang, and as a means of cow-rawing the rowdy British Consul at that port, has thought it advisable to send for a man-of-war, and in consequence, H. M. S. *Temeraire* left Shanghai on the 20th inst. for the protection of the foreigners at Chinkiang. A Shanghai paper reports that the *Temeraire* arrived there on the 20th inst. having left Chinkiang on Thursday afternoon, when it appeared to be quiet there, and the people on board had not heard of anything likely to cause a disturbance.

THE *Hu-huo*—"Two lads from two different villages in Kwangtung quarrelled at a market place and had a fight. Several adults joined in, and a general scrimmage ensued. The headsman of the two villages held a council of war and agreed to settle the dispute by force of arms. On the appointed day the rival villagers met, drawn up in battle array headed by huge banners. Swords, spears, and firearms were freely handled. Both sides fought with desperation and only parted when night closed on them. There were many killed and wounded on both sides, and quiet has not yet been restored. The magistrate has sent down a guard to keep order." And let us hope to bury the dead.

CURIOUS officials searching for opium on board the *Paris* on her trip up to Canton on the 23rd inst., upset the novel device of a Chinaman. The passenger in question was noticed sitting next to a port-hole in the 'ween deck'; his hand holding the end of a piece of rope which was passed through the port. The officer seized the rope and made the Chinaman assist him in pulling to the surface, what turned out to be bags of opium, equal to almost half a chest, which had been placed in a bag and dropped overboard at such time as the *Paris* had made ready which. "We understand the opium was confiscated and the Chinaman allowed to proceed on his way."

unsupported statements as to our satisfactory financial position, etc., etc., etc., any increased taxation on an already over-taxed community cannot be so disguised as to keep its existence unbroken; the hard-working public may not see the tax collector, but their diminished incomes will feel the effect of the extra demands which this increased military "squeeze" is certain to necessitate.

The additional vote of £20,000 has been forced through the Council solely by the official element, who went like lambs to the slaughter against the loudly expressed desire of the whole of Hongkong. And yet it is only a few months since the Hongkong rate-payers, by their representatives in Council, recommended a material increase of salary to these servants of—well, we don't know who they are supposed to serve, but we are taxed to pay their salaries. The passing of this vote renders the proposed liberal treatment of our official employees almost an impossibility, and Mr. T. H. WILTRUTHHEAD has therefore given notice that at to-day's meeting of Council he will propose—

"That in consequence of the enhanced Military Contribution still demanded by the Imperial Government this Colony is not in a position to pay the increased salaries recently recommended by the unofficial members, and that it might become a hardship by and bye; we say it is a grievous hardship now, looking at the general stagnation of trade and the wholesale poverty which prevails everywhere, and we challenge him to deny it. His Excellency likewise admits that when this increased vote was originally granted the increase of troops was put in the foreground, and that it was on the strength of the promised increase the additional amount was passed; and yet he said, and we can only assume that he meant what he said, that the failure of the promise had nothing to do with the question whether the extra £20,000 should be voted or not. Comment on such an argument as this would be insulting the intelligence of our readers, and when his Excellency vehemently expresses the opinion that we are morally bound to pay, British tax-payers for the military protection of what are purely British interests, we feel inclined to go outside and weep copiously.

This is taking the bull by the horns with a vengeance, but the member for the Chamber of Commerce is more than justified in his action. When this recommendation was made to the Secretary of State the colony was fairly prosperous, and the promised new regiment would have materially aided in keeping local business going. Things have changed; the fifteen hundred additional men have not come here as consumers and factors in our daily life, and trade is stagnant and poverty wide-spread. The Imperial Government has deliberately broken its promise, a vote of £20,000 for which no *quid pro quo* has been received has been passed in the Legislative Council by a purely official vote, and therefore the officials who are responsible for this cannot wonder if the colony objects to a fairness and liberality that are entirely one-sided.

THE members of Madame Patey's Concert Party met with another enthusiastic reception at the City Hall last night (2nd Inst.), and we regret that lack of space prevents us from giving a detailed criticism of the entertainment. *Deo*—to say the *artists* who form this select company have firmly established themselves in the highest favor of those members of the community who love music for music's own sake. If we were to select any items from the programme for even passing notice, they would be—"There is a green hill far away" by Madame Patey, "Ave Maria" by Miss Rossow, and the slate solos of Mr. Lemmon. The whole programme was carried through in the usual brilliant style of the company, with the exception of the final quartette which, to put it mildly, was sadly bungled owing to Mr. Robinson having a deceptive knowledge of the range of his own voice. We are glad to see that Madame Patey intends to produce Handel's "Messiah" on Friday next, with the promised assistance of several amateurs.

THE *Japan Herald* contains the following on Tsujimura Kurato, alias Watanabe Kai, who was recently arrested for having escaped from prison while undergoing a life sentence. He was an employee of the Goto branch of the Mitsui Busan Kisha at Nagasaki, and embroiled about yes 80 as a result of a profligate life. However, he was immediately detected, and sentenced to imprisonment for life in accordance with the old law. He managed to effect his escape, in July, 1884, from the convict settlement at Miike, and for a time by robbing and stealing he gained a living. After a time he changed his name, and proceeding to Tokio entered the Tokio Law School, from which he graduated, and passed his examination, for an appointment to a judgeship, being previously sent to a post on probation. In 1887 and 1888 he took up a position at Fukuke, being appointed a full judge in September the same year. Some inkling of his past life coming to light, he was spoken of as the robber judge, which coming to the ears of the police, an Inspector who was acquainted with the circumstances connected with his previous arrest, was despatched to the place, and recognising him as the escaped convict, immediately arrested him and conveyed him to Nagasaki.

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least a further 100 ounces of gold or silver in all 15, due to the ton. These results are considered satisfactory, inasmuch as the stone was only taken from the exploratory work of former owners. It is confidently expected that within two months good sheets of gold will be exposed, and a continuous satisfactory turn-out will be commenced.

The purchase of the Eureka property has been supplemented by the purchase of the lease of the Queen of the Mount Mine, and there is an intervening block of ground which has been applied for. The Directors are of opinion that these properties will prove exceedingly valuable, and it will be only the question of a few months to prove this; the total expense is estimated not to exceed \$3,000. It is proposed after the proving and exploratory work, to either sell the properties or form a subsidiary Company.

During the absence of Mr. A. P. Stokes, Mr. C. J. Hirst occupied a seat on the Board.

Under Article XV Section 5 of the Articles of Association, Messrs. A. P. Stokes and E. L. Woodin retire from the Board but offer themselves for re-election.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Needham who is eligible for re-election.

Geo. R. STAVENS,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 20th March, 1891.

BALANCE SHEET, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1890.

Dr. Assets:

Property:—
5,000 Shares allotted to
Vendor deemed fully
paid up at \$10 \$50,000.00

Purchase money
in Cash, \$1,850.61

Settlement with
Tributaries, 100 \$10.51

Cost of Balmoral Mine \$103,789.12

FitzGibbon's Gold Lease

475 Bathurst, \$100 648.65

"Eureka" Property, \$1

Shares, \$1,100 7,912.09

Matheson & Woods' Gold
Leases 1 & 424 \$350.00

Leases 1 & 424 \$350.00

Plant, Machinery & Build-
ings \$2,882.13

Brickmakers 1,064.54

Dam Account \$ 3,437.99

Surface Works 6,349.00

Timber Account 154.95

Stores Account 186.24

Horse Account 261.89

Office Furniture:—
Atheneum Office, Sydney Office & Mine
Cash:—

In Bank \$ 8,682.16

In Hand 85.08

Accounts Receivable 8,767.24

Accounts Payable 48.76

Balance at Debit of Working Account \$157,598.11

Balance at Credit of Working Account \$173,572.44

Cr. Liabilities:

Capital:—
First issue of 10,000

Shares at \$10 \$100,000.00

Allotted to Vendor in part
payment of Mine, \$5,000

Shares at \$10 50,000.00

New issue 1,000 Shares
of at \$10 \$150,000.00

Unallotted 786 Shares

2,214 "

Of which un-
paid date 442 "

Received [1,772
on at \$10] 17,720.00

Accounts Payable:—
Sundry Amounts due 5,626.20

Manager at Sydney:—
Amount due him, £41.16.7 226.24

\$173,572.44

WORKING ACCOUNT:

Preliminary Expenses \$ 2,153.09

Charges 5,179.32

Salaries 1,000.00

Exchange 505.52

Stores 1,661.88

Miners' Wages 6,148.20

Crushing Expenses 950.84

\$ 19,140.85

Gold Account \$ 3,350.35

Interest Account 720.17

Transfer Fees Account 96.00

Balance 15,674.33

\$ 19,140.85

K. A. STAVENS,
Secretary.

I have compared the above statements with the Company's Books, Vouchers and Returns received from Sydney and the Mine, and hereby certify the same to be in accordance therewith.

W. NEEDHAM,
Auditor.

PROGRAMME OF THE SHANGHAI
SPRING RACE MEETING.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY,
27th, 28th and 29th April, 1891.

Stewards:—A. McLeod, Esq., W. Howie,
Esq.; Jno. McGregor, Esq.; O. Schaufuss,
Esq.; Robt. Mackenzie, Esq.; H. J. Tripp,
Esq.; B. A. Clarke, Esq., Clerk of the Course;
T. F. Hough, Esq., Secretary.—Barrett, Dallas,
Esq.

FIRST DAY.—MONDAY, 27TH APRIL.
The HART LEAGUE CUP, presented by the late
James Hart, value, Tls. 100; for China ponies;
weight for inches as per scale; entrance, Tls. 5.
Half-mile.

The CRITERION STAKES, A Sweepstakes of Tls.
10 each, with Tls. 100 added; for China ponies;
weight for inches as per scale; second pony to
save his stake. One mile.

The GRIFIN'S PLATE value, Tls. 250; for China
ponies that have never run at any meeting;
second pony, Tls. 50; weight for inches as per
scale; entrance, Tls. 5. Three-quarters of a
mile.

The CATHAY CUP, value, Tls. 150; for China
ponies; weight for inches as per scale; Griffins
at date of entry allowed 7lbs; entrance, Tls. 5.
One mile and a half.

The JOCKEY CUP, value, Tls. 100; for China
ponies that have never won a race; to be
held by Jockeys who have been Secretaries

winning mount before this meeting; weight
for inches as per scale; entrance, Tls. 5. Once
round.

The KIANGSU PLATE, value, Tls. 150; for
China ponies; weight for inches as per scale;
entrance, Tls. 5. One mile and three-quarters.
The RACING STAKES, a sweepstakes of Tls. 10
each; for China ponies that have never run
before 1st January, 1891; Griffins at date of entry
allowed 50 lbs; weight for inches as per scale;
winners, 50 lbs extra. One mile and a
quarter.

The ROADSTERS' PLATE, value, Tls. 100; for
China ponies; weight for inches as per scale;
entrance, Tls. 5. One mile and three-quarters.

The CESAREWITCH STAKES, a sweepstakes of
Tls. 10 each; for China ponies, being *lads* &
griffins at date of entry, and which have
arrived in Shanghai after 28th February,
1891; weight for inches as per scale; winners
of a race, 7lbs extra. One mile and a
half.

The CHINA STAKES, a sweepstakes of
Tls. 10 each; for China ponies, being *lads* &
griffins at date of entry, and which have
arrived in Shanghai after 28th February,
1891; weight for inches as per scale; winners
of a race, 7lbs extra. One mile and a
half.

The CHINA DERBY, a Sweepstakes of Tls.
15 each; for China ponies; being *lads* &
griffins at date of entry; first pony to
receive 75 per cent.; second pony, 15
per cent.; third pony, 10 per cent.; weight
for inches as per scale. One mile and a
half.

The SHANGHAI DERBY, a Sweepstakes of Tls.
15 each; for China ponies; being *lads* &
griffins at date of entry; first pony to
receive 75 per cent.; second pony, 15
per cent.; third pony, 10 per cent.; weight
for inches as per scale. One mile and a
half.

SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY, 28TH APRIL.

The CHU-KA-ZA CUP, value, Tls. 100; for
China ponies; weight for inches as per scale;
winners of one race since 1st October, 1890,
7lbs extra; two or more races, 10lbs extra;
entrance, Tls. 5. Half-a-mile.

The CHINA STAKES, a sweepstakes of Tls.
10 each; for China ponies; being *lads* &
griffins at date of entry, and which have
arrived in Shanghai after 28th February,
1891; weight for inches as per scale; winners
of a race, 7lbs extra. One mile.

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The CHINA DERBY, a Sweepstakes of Tls.
15 each; for China ponies; being *lads* &
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receive 75 per cent.; second pony, 15
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